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WB avails 2.7trn/- for development projects



Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (R) and Mara Warwick (3rd-R), the World Bank's country director, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday signing five WB loan agreements for USD1.167 billion (about 2.697trn/-) meant to support the implementation of infrastructure, energy and other development projects. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

By Getrude Mbago

THE government and the World Bank yesterday signed five loan agreements totaling \$1.167bn (2.697trn/-) for implementation of development projects including infrastructure and energy.

The agreements were signed in Dar es Salaam by the Minister for Finance and Planning, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, on behalf of the government and WB country director Mara Warwick for the International Development Association (IDA).

Speaking soon after the signing, the minister applauded the World Bank for issuing the funds, as this will greatly contribute to the implementation of various strategic projects in the Mainland and Zanzibar.

He named the projects as 'Roads to Inclusion and Socioeconomic Opportunities (RISE) pegged at \$300m (693.2bn/-); Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) allocated \$425m (982.1bn/-) and the Digital Tanzania Project (DTP), credited with \$150m (346.6bn/-).

Other envisaged projects are the Zanzibar Energy Sector Transformation and Access (ZESTA) project billed at \$142m (328.1bn/-) and the Boosting Inclusive Growth for Zanzibar: Integrated Development project (BIG-Z) staked at \$150m (346.6bn/-).

Dr Nchemba said that the signed projects are in line with the country's Third Five-Year Development Plan and part of the Sixth Phase Government's broader agenda to build a competitive industrial economy for human development.

"The government's agenda is geared to improving productive infrastructures, providing reliable access to energy, strengthening the business and investment environment as well as improving and strengthening education and training systems," he stated.

Warwick meanwhile said IDA was proud to support important development projects as Tanzania marks its successful transition to lower middle-income status and continues to make progress towards achieving the goals of the Tanzania Development Vision 2025.

"We are aware that sustaining strong

Tenants' dilemma over property tax payments

By Songwa wa Songwa

AS the new property tax collection system via electricity recharge starts today, the issue of tenants whose money will be automatically deducted has come to the fore since they are not supposed to pay a cent.

From today, tenants buying electricity from the Tanzania Electric Supply Company (Tanesco) will have their money deducted but according to authorities, they will either face their landlords for refund or expect reimbursement from Tanesco in the form of electricity units.

Richard Kayombo, the director for taxpayer services and education at the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), told this paper yesterday that though the system will deduct the set amounts from meter numbers in each house, consideration has been made for property occupants if they are tenants.

It is property owners who are supposed to pay the property tax and not tenants,

“ In case of plots with various units, their owners are advised to visit nearby Tanesco offices to specify which meters should be charged

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East Africa's natural capital yields \$608bn to economies

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

EAST African countries' combined natural capital contributes over USD 608 billion to the global economy, according to a report published yesterday, possibly the highest ever recorded estimate as for monetary benefits from the conservation sector.

Titled 'Protecting East Africa's Natural Capital: The Cost of Inaction,' the new report indicates that the Great East African Plains, the Northern Savannas, the Albertine Rift Forests, and the Ruwetu-Mugesera-Akagera Wetlands, together contribute over US \$10.9 billion annually to East African Community economies and \$608 billion to the global economy.

The term natural capital means stocks of natural assets which include its geology, soil, air, water and all living things, says the study, commissioned by the EAC in partnership with the USAID-funded Economics of Natural Capital in East Africa (NatCap) program.

It shows that these ecosystems contribute US \$5.92 billion, US \$1.1 billion and US \$2.6 billion to climate regulating capacities, carbon storage and harvestable resources in

Speaker: MPs to amend mobile transactions levy

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

NATIONAL Assembly Speaker Job Ndagai said yesterday the House is ready to make amendments to the newly enacted Finance Act, 2021 which introduced mobile money transaction levies.

Ndagai (pictured) made the remarks when opening a symposium for disabled teachers, organized by the Tanzania Teachers Union (TTU).

"We endorsed levies on mobile transactions; but we did not intend to punish anybody. We passed this law with good intentions," he asserted, noting that it may be possible that the legislature overlooked some sections. In the coming



parliamentary session the matter will be looked into, he declared.

"We can make some changes for example make the one who sends to be deducted and let the one who receives not to be deducted, but all in all the levies are important to the country," he stated.

The MPs' motive in passing the levies was to raise funds which will help in supporting development projects, he said, underlining that in the next five years, the government plans to collect 5trn/- from the levies chiefly to fund higher education loans and construction of classes.

The symposium had also discussed contending views on nomination of Special

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WB avails 2.7trn/- for development projects

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growth while also offering a more inclusive set of economic opportunities to improve living standards for all Tanzanians is the country's priority agenda for the coming years. The five projects signed today will all contribute to these goals, in particular helping to strengthen the human capital and infrastructure foundations needed to promote the creation of more and better jobs for Tanzanians especially the youth," she declared.

The RISE project will increase the share of Tanzania's rural population with access to good condition roads within 5km of their homes, from 48 percent to 58 percent.

"The project will also generate 35,000 civil works employment opportunities, including 19,000 under community-based routine maintenance contracts for rural communities adjacent to the roads, with at least 20 percent of these jobs to be held directly by women," the country director underlined.

She said HEET will contribute to build Tanzania's human capital by strengthening the learning environment in higher education, ensuring greater alignment of priority degree programs to the labour market as well as improving the management of the higher education system.

"The BIG-Z will improve living conditions and service delivery in targeted areas in Zanzibar and enhance the institutional capacity of the government, while the ZESTA project will expand access to reliable and efficient electricity services, scaling up renewable energy generation in the Isles," she affirmed.

Umy Mwalimu, the Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) hailed President

Samia Suluhu Hassan for her commitment in ensuring that roads in rural areas are improved through RISE.

She said that RISE was meant to conduct major improvements of roads in rural areas so as to facilitate smooth transportation of farming produce to reach markets in towns, thus promoting inclusive economic growth.

The RISE project placed under the Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) will invest heavily in renovating and constructing road infrastructures in rural areas and towns.

The minister said that the project will see construction of roads totaling 535 kilometers, with 400 kilometres will be constructed in the district roads network and 135 kilometers built in rural areas of Mufindi, Kilolo in Iringa region; Ruangwa (Lindi Region), Handeni and Mbogwe in Tanga region.

The RISE project will later be implemented in all regions except Dar es Salaam, which has a different program.

The projects will greatly enhance efficiency in transportation of people and goods, stimulate growth of towns and sectors like agriculture, industry, tourism and trade, thereby increasing government revenue collections.

Prof Joyce Ndalichako, the minister for Education, Science and Technology, hinted on the note that through the HEET project the government will invest in improving the country's education sector so as to produce competent graduates.

"Through this project, higher learning institutions will invest in the review of curriculums so as to produce highly skilled labour ably complementing the country's development priorities, market demand and development of science and technology," she asserted.



Communications and Information Technology minister Dr Faustine Ndugulile (2nd-L), NMB Plc Bank chief of retail banking Filbert Mponzi (3rd-R), in jovial mood at the launch of the bank's 'NMB Mkononi Plus' service in Dar es Salaam yesterday. With them are Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority's director of surveillance and prudential supervision, Neema Lutula (L), as well as NMB senior officials Kwame Makundi (2nd-R) and Martine Massawe. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

THE Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC) has called on the government to repay Medical Stores Department (MSD) debt amounting 269bn/- as it undermines its activities.

The panel also hailed MSD Director General Dr Gabriel Mhidize for making major positive changes in a short time.

Speaking to this paper, the committee's chairperson, Naghenjwa Kaboyoka said the treasury is supposed to make sure all MSD debts are paid to avoid decimating the institution.

"If they do not pay it will be difficult for MSD to operate, initially they stopped providing funds due to rampant embezzlement but in this year's budget they said they will

PAC calls on govt to pay 269bn/- MSD debts to avoid its collapse

start reducing the debt," she added.

She said the step by MSD to establish factories for making gloves, facemasks, drugs as well as reviving Keko Pharmaceutical factory will also provide jobs, among many other benefits for the country.

"We used to import surgical gloves, while raw materials for making gloves come from Zanzibar using rubber from trees that had not been exploited," the PAC chairperson added.

She called on MSD officials to continue implementing recommendations from the

Controller and Auditor General (CAG) and the panel will visit the factories.

"MSD have initiated great changes, they were making losses even to the point of being unable to pay salaries, there was also huge embezzlement of funds, but as for now things have been rectified under the new director general," she added.

Kaboyoka stressed to the department to continue abiding to laws governing procurement and follow CAG's recommendations.

For his part, PAC deputy chairman Japhet Hasunga stressed on the

need to make follow ups of the MSD debt that has been undermining its operations.

He said the MSD director general has done a very good job to rectify deficiencies that had been in place, including establishing of factories for making gloves, drugs, facemasks and other medical items.

He said now MSD buys X-ray machines direct from suppliers rather than through middlemen.

He added: "Continue to review your customers' accounts, the panel needs to visit these factories to know about their operations."



World Education Inc chief of party Lilian Badi (with microphone) briefs Gerald Mweli (L), Deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments - Education), in Dodoma city on Wednesday. It was at an exhibition he visited when invited to close a meeting on basic education hosted and facilitated by the organisation. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

East Africa's natural capital yields \$608bn to economies

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the region, respectively.

It was tabled during the virtual private sector round table on the economics of natural capital in East Africa, organized by East Africa Business Council (EABC) and EAC Secretariat in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development.

"The landscapes contribute \$1.28 billion to cultural services and related services to around 786,663 people in the region," said the EABC vice chairman, Simon Kaheru.

Aurelia Micko, the Kenya and East Africa director for the USAID environment office, noted that natural capital, which commands a large percentage of the region's total wealth, was also rapidly declining. "USAID is thus proud to partner and support the protection of natural capital in East Africa," she said.

Kenneth Bagamuhunda, the EAC Customs and Trade director, said the six partner states need to develop a collective and coordinated policy for conservation and sustainable utilization of wildlife and other tourism related resources.

As to climate regulating functions, the study indicates that each year the

Great East African plains contribute over \$3.2bn to the region, \$1bn on water flow through infiltration and storage of nine million cubic meters of rainwater, \$0.7m in water quality amelioration and \$2.2bn in erosion control, thereby protecting lakes, reservoirs and coastal environments.

In the region, the carbon storage value is estimated at \$788m per year based on the social cost of carbon (SCC), the report noted.

The global value of carbon storage is \$400bn per year - twice the 2018 GDP output of the East African region, a datum that provides the framework for policymakers to tap into international conservation agencies or carbon markets to generate revenue for conservation, the director underlined.



USAID is thus proud to partner and support the protection of natural capital in East Africa

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Seats MPs, where Speaker Ndugai underscored the need for selection of such MPs by being voted by the public instead of being elected through lists presented by special groups.

"We have experienced this in other countries and when we go there we find ourselves in difficulty to answer their questions as they sometimes ask why our legislature has two types of MPs," he told the gathering.

"In the House, there is a group of MPs representing people with disabilities (PwDs) but unfortunately, the same MPs are

Speaker: MPs to amend mobile transactions levy

selected by the ruling party (CCM) women's wing."

He underlined the need of having a system that ensures MPs representing PwDs are elected by citizens.

"It is better to start thinking on the way of getting MPs from PwDs. They should be voted for instead of being nominated by particular groups," he emphasised.

"We need to have a voting system for all special seats

legislators including those with disabilities. The system would provide us with an alternative name for the Special Seats MP," he elaborated.

He urged teachers to go for Covid-19 inoculation as they are also frontline workers. "Whatever is happening in the National Assembly regarding the on-going vaccination exercise would be dealt with accordingly," the top legislator intoned.

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he said.

A public notice issued by TRA yesterday said the new annual rates are 12,000/- for every house, up from 10,000/- and 60,000/- per floor of a storied building, up from 50,000/- earlier.

The notice, issued in line with changes made to the Local Government Finance Act (Cap 289) in the National Assembly, said the payment will be effected by deducting 1,000/- from every meter number in a house and 50,000/- from ever floor of a storied building per month.

But there are homes with more than one family sharing the same

Tenants' dilemma over property tax payments

meter number and some plots with various apartments, each with its own electricity meter.

Tenants living in single houses will have to face their landlord on how they can get their money back especially deduction from the next rent, the director stated.

"In case of plots with various units, their owners are advised to visit nearby Tanesco offices to specify which meters should be charged," he further noted.

"For families sharing a meter and tenants, it is upon them to decide how to share the cost while buying electricity."

TRA hopes to raise over 46bn/- annually through this system of collecting land taxes through Tanesco, he affirmed.

"The bottom-line is all those whose money will be deducted but are not supposed to pay will be reimbursed in the form of electricity units from Tanesco," he added.



CRDB Bank Plc Corporate Affairs and PR director Tully Esther Mwambapa briefs journalists in Zanzibar yesterday on Kizimkazi Festival, which President Samia Suluhu Hassan is expected to launch this coming Monday (August 23). She is with Unguja South regional commissioner Rashid Hadidi Rashid. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

Installation of DART's AFCS now 80 per cent complete

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

DAR ES SALAAM Rapid Transport Agency (DART) says the creation of Automated Fare Collection System (AFCS) is now 80 per cent complete after which people will use their smart phones to buy tickets.

This was disclosed here yesterday by DART's Chief Executive Officer Edwin Mhede in his report on DART's performance submitted to the Parliamentary Local Authorities Accounts Committee (LAAT).

He said as for now the system is in trial basis since July this year and its verification was being done by POS machines.

"This system is operating in seven bus stops where users can buy tickets electronically via their smart phones, in initial stages, AFCS installation is expected to start in October this year while the Integrated Transport System (ITS) is expected to start operating in November this year after arrival of equipment," he said.

He said the system has been created by the agency in collaboration with experts

from the Finance and Planning ministry, the Ministry of Regional Administration and Local Government and e-Government Authority (eGA) and will help to reduce external dependency aimed at reducing costs.

He said the system was open in the submission of fares collection reports to enable the project to operate and will be applied in all six DART phases.

Mhede said the government decided to create own system due to the failure of the service provider (UDART)'s system that stemmed from contract agreement with its Belgian firm - KCC.

In regard to the process of getting a new service provider, Mhede said tenders are expected to be finalised for signing in on January 25 next year.

He said the system was open in the submission of fares collection reports to enable the project to operate and will be applied in all six DART phases

Air Tanzania says implementation of its mechanical service programme is behind recent rescheduling of flights

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) has attributed the recent cancellation and postponement of trips to a continuous flight mechanical service program which has caused a shortage to its fleet.

Addressing a news conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Head of communication at ATCL, Josephat Kagirwa said there has been a programme over the past two weeks to service the flights which are in line with the requirements from the manufacturers.

Kagirwa who was speaking on behalf of ATCL's acting Managing Director Albinus Manumbu said the company has decided to apologize and inform the public over the

matter following concerns from customers over cancellations and postponement of flights.

"Whenever there are any changes to our flights, the company informs passengers some hours before but, it is unfortunate that there are some passengers who bought tickets from agents and they do not get the information on time," he said.

In recent weeks there has been concerns on social media from various people over a tendency by ATCL to cancel or postpone flights without any information.

Kagirwa used the opportunity to inform customers who buy tickets from agents to make sure they write their phone numbers so that it becomes easy to inform them whenever there are changes.

In 2016, Tanzania developed a

programme to revitalize its national carrier which included purchasing six new aircraft between 2016 and 2018, payment of debts and provision of start-up capital, improvement and modernization of business.

The aircraft is part of Air Tanzania's plan to grow its operations across Africa as well as to international destinations.

Air Tanzania was established as Air Tanzania Corporation (ATC) in September 1977 after the collapse of the regional East African Airways. Since then, the airline had been operating at a loss and depending on government subsidies.

In 2019 ATCL launched the India route and the carrying of the delegation is just one of the successes of the airline in its strategies to expand its routes.

Tanzanian, Canadian governments to finish UTC project by June 2022

By Guardian Reporter, Mbeya

TANZANIA and Canada are expected to complete the project to refurbish teachers training colleges in the country by June next year.

The project began in 2016 at Mpuguso, Shinyanga, Kitangali, and Ndala and aimed to replace the dilapidated buildings with new ones.

Speaking here to reporters at Mpuguso Teachers College in Mbeya Region unified teaching commission consultant Renatus Dominick said the money used to finalize the project at the four teachers' colleges is 39bn/- of which the Tanzanian government provided 8.2bn/- while the Canadian government provided 30bn/-

"Upgrading Teachers Colleges project started in 2016 at the four colleges and we

expect to complete it in June 2022," he said.

On his part, the principal of Mpuguso Teachers College, Nathaniel Hinju, thanked the government for facilitating the project.

"There are so many benefits from the refurbishment, as security has been beefed up due to solar power, more water reservoirs, and the conference hall that has provided opportunities to conduct college meetings as well as students being able to study science subjects," he added.

He said the reason behind the project's request was dilapidated infrastructures due to the increased enrolment of students.

"We thank the government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan through the Education, Science and Technology ministry for improving the teaching and learning environment at the colleges," he added.



STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 2020 AND FOR SIX MONTH PERIOD OF 01 JANUARY-30 JUNE 2021

This publication of the Financial Statement of ACDI-VOCA is made in accordance with regulation 13(a) of the Non Governmental Organisations Act (Amendments), Regulations 2018 which requires Non Governmental Organisations receiving funds exceeding Tshs.20 Million to publish bi annually the funds received and its expenditure.

Below is the Statement showing support and grants Received and Expenditures incurred for the year ended 31 December 2020 (Audited) and for the six month period of 01 January-30 June 2021 (Unaudited).

ACDI/VOCA Tanzania
Statement of Activities
(In Tanzanian Shillings)

	2021 (Unaudited-January-June) TZS	2020 Audited TZS
Support and grants revenue	1,780,630,795.09	5,604,222,287.00
Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	1,211,314,863.03	2,854,052,271.00
Travel and Transportation	124,303,022.92	594,647,777.00
Professional fees	45,746,133.35	67,588,236.00
Participant training	28,631,010.00	74,172,886.00
Grants	207,176,526.08	1,218,195,311.00
Occupancy	61,643,595.08	299,526,018.00
Equipment		
Postage and delivery		345,900.00
Repairs and maintenance	25,271,984.00	230,258,645.00
Insurance	2,243,948.42	4,226,024.00
Bank commission and charges	3,314,840.10	13,460,382.00
Supplies	14,871,200.00	81,266,832.00
Printing and publication	230,994.00	12,656,825.00
Meetings and conferences		7,032,000.00
Telecommunication	45,287,996.59	145,933,180.00
Other expenses	10,594,681.52	860,000.00
Depreciation Expense		453,210,921.00
Total Expenses	1,780,630,795.09	6,057,433,208.00
Net Deficit	-	(453,210,921.00)

Support and revenue: ACDI/VOCA Tanzania receives all its support and revenue from ACDI/VOCA headquarters. These support and revenues are recognized on cost-reimbursement basis from U.S. Government funded grants implementation in Tanzania. Revenues are directly related to the costs incurred on cost-reimbursement contracts. Revenues are recognized as expenses are incurred.



EAST AFRICAN
CRUDE OIL
PIPELINE

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SUPPLEMENTARY RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN AND LIVELIHOOD RESTORATION PLAN FOR EACOP PROJECT REF: 0010006870

TOTAL East Africa Midstream B.V. (Company) Tanzania, an international energy company, invites experienced and reputable specialist Resettlement and Livelihood Restoration Companies to express their interest in providing services to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project.

The EACOP project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania. Land has been acquired in Chongoleani Peninsula for the construction of the Marine Storage Terminal impacting local communities whose livelihoods are both land and marine based.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES :

The COMPANY requires the services of specialist Resettlement and Livelihood Restoration Companies to:

- Develop a supplementary Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) for Project Affected Persons in Chongoleani Peninsula communities.
- Undertake a community livelihoods assessment (land and marine based).
- Develop a Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP) for Project affected Chongoleani Peninsula communities.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:
- Evidence of the development RAPs and LRPs for industrial projects in Africa.
- Evidence of experience in undertaking resettlement planning and livelihood restoration plan design for large infrastructure projects with investor financing.
- Proposed key personnel including land and livelihood (land based and marine based) specialists and their relevant experience in providing such services.
- Proof of registration of individual senior practitioners with relevant Tanzanian Professional bodies or associations.
- Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.

Interested companies which have the capacity and resources to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents an email to robin.schroh@external.totalenergies.com (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00** hours East African Time (EAT), on **Wednesday August 25th**.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English language.

No one will ever dare to smuggle even a single piece of gemstone out of Tanzania - minister

By Guardian Correspondent, Songwe

MINERALS minister Doto Biteko has said the government is very vigilant in its control of minerals smuggling and that not a single person will ever dare smuggle a piece of mineral to Europe.

He gave the remarks Wednesday as he was speaking to Kalungu villagers in Momba District, Songwe Region after inspecting helium gas research activities conducted by Helium One, a Norwegian firm in nearby Kamsamba Village.

His remarks followed claims from villagers that there are people who cart away bagfuls of minerals and worried that mineral wealth were being stolen by a few.

"There are some people making up stories, the regional commissioner has just said that these people were merely doing research. I like to assure you that no one will ever dare to steal a stone of any mineral and smuggle it to Europe, the government makes sure the value is being added to the minerals to spur people's development," he said.

Biteko added that Tanzania is the fourth country in Africa and 18th in the world with many varieties of minerals, the second in the continent with gemstones, hence President Samia Suluhu Hassan wants to see the mineral wealth benefits Tanzanians.

"Today we are talking about Helium gas, there is no country in Africa that has Helium gas except Tanzania, other countries producing it are the US, Russia and Qatar," he added.

The minister said when Helium gas starts to be drilled, the people's wealth will begin to be discerned and called on Tanzanians to be

friendly to investors.

For his part, Songwe Regional Commissioner Omary Mgumba said the firm researching on Helium gas has offered the country budget of USD 25,000 for assistance to various development projects in four wards surrounding the mine area.

He said the government continues to take attention of Songwe Region and has already provided more than 43bn/- for the construction of dispensaries in all villages of the region.

Momba Member of Parliament Condester Sihalwe, thanked the minister for his 5m/- assistance towards the construction of Kamsamba and Kalungu health centres.



Today we are talking about Helium gas, there is no country in Africa that has Helium gas except Tanzania, other countries producing it are the US, Russia and Qatar



Kinondoni district commissioner Godwin Gondwe (C, in sunglasses) cuts ribbon in Dar es Salaam yesterday when gracing the handing over of a modern toilet built by Bahari Rotary Club (BRC) for the district's Mtakuja Beach Secondary School. He is accompanied by, among others, BRC president Diamond Carvalho, Kunduchi councillor Michael Urio, school board chairperson Mary-ani Lema and headmistress Magdalena Matiku. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Government remains determined on GMO seeds ban, states minister

By Guardian Reporter

THE government is steadfast in its stand to ban research activities on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) seeds in the country and stressed for the need to enhance seeds production.

Agriculture minister Prof Adolph Mkenda made the remarks on Wednesday when addressing members of Parliamentary Agriculture, Livestock and Water Committee as he was responding to a question from panel member Dr Bashiru Ally Kakurwa who

had wanted to know about the government position on the use of GMOs.

The government position has come after 10 years of debate, campaigns for trials on GMO seeds started in 2008 under Water Efficient Maize for Africa (WEMA) sponsored by Bill&Melinda Gates Foundation but official trials begun in 2016.

In 2018, Tanzania government through the former Agriculture Ministry Permanent Secretary Eng Mathew Mtigumwe banned all GMO seeds research activities and

ordered destruction of all crops that were in the research process.

Mtigumwe ordered the suspension of the trials that were being conducted by Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) at its Makutupora Centre in Dodoma Region.

The main arguments against GMO seeds centred on health safety concerns to users, the environment and seed markets.

Prof Mkenda said within the science world there is big friction on health concerns to humans eating food from GMO seeds, but the main

problem was its huge dependency of the seeds while the country was in strategies to increase domestic seeds production.

"Honourable fellow members, there is no reason to import crops seeds as we have good arable land with nutritious soils for our crops, hence our responsibility is to make sure TARI continues to make in-depth, research with Agricultural seeds Agency (ASA) in collaboration with other stakeholders in the sector to produce ample quality seeds," Prof Mkenda told panel members.



Advertisement

TEMBO NICKEL CORPORATION: KABANGA NICKEL PROJECT
Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below work package

Tembo Nickel Corporation ("Tembo") is an operating company formed via the Framework Agreement (19 January 2021) between Kabanga Nickel Limited ("Kabanga Nickel") and the Government of Tanzania ("GoT") for development of the Kabanga nickel deposits in the Ngara District in the Northwest of Tanzania. Under the Framework Agreement terms, Tembo (owned 84% by Kabanga Nickel and 16% by GoT) has been formally established for the mining, processing and refining of Class 1 nickel with cobalt and copper co-products.

Kabanga is the largest development-ready nickel sulphide deposit in the world, unmatched in scale and grade, with at least 30 years life of mine and further exploration upside. Once in operation, the Kabanga Nickel Project will produce Class 1 battery grade nickel, cobalt and copper refined metals in Tanzania. The cradle-to-gate operation will use hydromet technology that is significantly more cost efficient than smelting. The hydromet process will reduce the carbon footprint, minimise environmental impact, lower capital and production costs, and contribute significantly to the economic growth of Tanzania.

Tembo Nickel Corporation, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the following Services.

No.	Reference No.	Description of work/goods to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	TEMBO-2021-08-001	Surface Diamond Drilling Services; a. 5,000 – 6,000m PQ/HQ/NQ drilling, with provision for additional 2,000m of drilling if required b. Setting of NQ Zero Trip wedges	i. Must have CRB class two and above registered in Civil and earthworks and active in payment of the board fees ii. Must be compliant to the Local Content Legislation and have an approved Local Content Plan iii. List and attach evidence of Contractor owned Drill Rig Type with ability to provide PQ drilling capability to 300m, HQ capability to 1,000m, NQ capability to 1,400m iv. List and attach evidence of Contractor experience in setting and provision of NQ Zero Trip wedges

The above Services are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. If your company would like to be considered for pre-qualification to receive the invitation to tender, please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- * Full company profile;
- * Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business licence, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.;
- * Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registration
- * Years' service and experience of key personnel to be assigned to project
- * Required equipment availability to perform the specific work
- * Indicate the above Reference number and description on your Expression of interest submission.

Kindly send your response by email to info@kabanganickel.com by latest close of business on the **24 August 2021**. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered. Please quote reference number in the subject line of your email.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of **Tembo Nickel Corporation**.

For and on behalf of **TEMBO NICKEL CORPORATION: KABANGA NICKEL PROJECT**

TEMESA completes repairs of its 2 Lake Victoria ferries

By Guardian Reporter

THE government, through its Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA) has completed the project for refurbishing of its two ferries that provide service in Lake Victoria, Mwanza Region costing a total of 2.9bn/-.

The ferries - MV Sengerema that sails between Kigongo in Misungwi District to Busisi in Sengerema District and MV Tegemeo, providing service between Kaunda Maisome and Kanoni in Buchosa District have undergone major routine refurbishment for safety of passengers.

Speaking to reporters yesterday at a short event to receive the vessels at Kigongo in Mwanza city for MV Sengerema, and at

Songoro Yard at Pasiansi-Ilemela for MV Tegemeo, TEMESA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Eng Japhet Maselle said MV Sengerema was found to have major defects necessitating dry docking for the repairs.

"Hence it had to be fitted with two new Marine Doosan Infracore engines and two propulsion units of 285 HP each that cost USD 790,550 equivalent to 1.8bn/-.

"In addition the ferry has been fitted with radar, GPS, magnetic compass, navigation aids including communication equipment as well as life-saving equipment for both adults and children.

When receiving MV Tegemeo at Pasiansi-Ilemela, Eng Maselle said the local firm, Mwanza based Songoro Marine Transport Ltd won the tender for its refurbishment at

a cost of 672.4m/- and work started immediately.

"The ferry has also been fitted with two new Marine Doosan Infracore engines of 300 HP each with a maximum speed of 9 knots.

For his part, the Director of Songoro Marine Transport Ltd, Major Songoro thanked the government for its continual trust of his firm, for giving it the tender to refurbish the two vessels and promised high standard of work.

MV Sengerema has a capacity to carry 490 passengers and 24 vehicles equivalent to 170 tonnes.

It has a length of 55 metres and a span of 10.5 metres, while MV Tegemeo has a carrying capacity of 200 passengers, 10 vehicles, equivalent to 85 tonnes.

It has a length of 37 metres and a span of 10 metres.



Nazarius Mfikwa, Tanzania Revenue Authority's Tanga regional manager, pictured in Tanga city yesterday opening a seminar for members of the business community on amendments made to tax laws in financial year 2021/2022. Left is the authority's Tanga regional customs officer, Nuru Cheti. Photo: Correspondent Oscar Kasimiri

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SALE OF USED VEHICLES

The **United Nations World Food Programme** office in Dar es Salaam have used vehicles, Motorcycles, Generators, IT Equipment, office furniture & equipment for sale on an **"as-is-where-is"** basis to the highest bidder. Prospective buyers will be responsible for payment of duty, VAT and other related charges as established under Government rules and regulations. Only bids with precise prices will be accepted. WFP reserves the right to reject the bid. Bids should be quoted in Tanzanian Shillings.

All items can be viewed at the following sites below and on the indicated dates and time

Viewing Sites	Date	Time
WFP Dar es Salaam, Dodoma. Kibondo& Kasulu Office	24.08.2021 – 26.08.2021	0800hrs-1400 hrs

Sealed bids should be addressed to the **WFP Representative & Country Director, P.O. Box 77778, Plot No. 133 Mwindu Lane Street, Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam** and marked **"BID FOR PURCHASE OF USED VEHICLE, MOTORCYCLES, EQUIPMENT & FURNITURE 01/2021"** and should reach the UNWFP Dar es Salaam Office before **Wednesday 03 September 2021**. The bids for used vehicles, motorcycles and generators should be enclosed with banker's cheque amounting 10% of the value of quoted on the bid. Successful bidder will be required to pay the balance within 7 working days after being notified of their successful bid, failure to which the 10% deposit will be forfeited, and the item will be offered to the next highest bidder.

USED VEHICLES AND MOTORCYCLES WITH DETAILS FOR DISPOSAL

LOT	ASSET ID	PLATE No.	Make	Model	Model Code	Inventory No.	Chassis number	Engine Number	Manufacture Year	Odometer (Km)	Location	Status
1	GVL2740	T257CD229	TOYOTA	LANDCRUISER	H2J76R-RKMRS	00239428	JTEEB71J107027744	1H20814410	2015	103629	Dar Es Salaam	Good
2	GVL2742	T257CD232	TOYOTA	LANDCRUISER	H2J76R-RKMRS	00239430	JTEEB71J1707027750	1H20814430	2015	93803	Dar Es Salaam	Good
3	GVL2743	T257CD236	TOYOTA	LANDCRUISER	H2J76R-RKMRS	00239431	JTEEB71J907027751	1H20814432	2015	197191	Dar Es Salaam	Good
4	GVL2744	T257CD238	TOYOTA	LANDCRUISER	H2J76R-RKMRS	00239432	JTEEB71J1707027778	1H20814616	2015	132910	Dar Es Salaam	Good
5	GVL2737	T257CD227	TOYOTA	LANDCRUISER	H2J76R-RKMRS	00239425	JTEEB71J807027725	1H20814242	2015	156816	Dar Es Salaam	Good
6	GVL2732	T257CD223	TOYOTA	LANDCRUISER	H2J76R-RKMRS	00239420	JTEEB71J307027664	1H20813699	2014	161917	Dar Es Salaam	Good
7	GVL2032	T257CD217	TOYOTA	LANDCRUISER	H2J76R-RKMRS	00238720	JTEEB71J307020164	1H20744981	2013	153239	Dar Es Salaam	Good
8		T257CD228	MOTORCYCLE	HONDA	XL 125	00471254	LTM102191F5305976	JD21E2224640	2015	14305	Kasulu	Good
9		T257CD235	MOTORCYCLE	HONDA	XL 125	00471232	LTM102199F5306034	JD21E2224508	2015	11300	Kibondo	Good
10		T257CD189	MOTORCYCLE	HONDA	XL 125	00694553	L125S5611784	2011	42247	Dar Es Salaam	Good	
11		T257CD182	MOTORCYCLE	HONDA	XL 125	00329070	L125S5611716	2011	48693	Dar Es Salaam	Good	
12		T257CD188	MOTORCYCLE	HONDA	XL 125	00694615	L125S5611813	2011	41740	Dar Es Salaam	Good	
13		T257CD185	MOTORCYCLE	HONDA	XL 125	00694614	L125S5611779	2011	36313	Dar Es Salaam	Good	

OFFICE FURNITURE, EQUIPMENT & GENERATORS

LOT	INVENTORY NO	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	STATUS	LOCATION
14	00885781	CHEST OF DRAWERS	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885588	MOBILE DRAWER	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
	00248108	CHEST OF DRAWERS	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885590	FILING CABINET	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
15	00885589	FILING CABINET	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885624	FILING CABINET	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885626	CABINET FILE (IRON)	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
16	00885627	CABINET FILE (IRON)	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885628	CABINET FILE (IRON)	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
17	00885629	FILING CABINET	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
	00169589	BOOKSHELF	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00169591	BOOKSHELF	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
18	00885400	BOOKSHELF	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885481	SECURITY GUARDS MOBILE HUTS	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885482	SECURITY GUARDS MOBILE HUTS	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
19	00885823	DESK BEECH 0D302	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
	00169516	BOOKSHELF LV-HC-180 BEECH	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00169518	BOOKSHELF LV-HC-180 BEECH	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885824	DESK HOD 5050	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
21	00885829	DESK	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00248087	FILING CABINET	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885587	DESK	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00169750	PAPER SHREDDING MACHINE	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
22	00375589	BOOKSHELF	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00537180	GENERATOR 4.5KW AKSA AAP5500E	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
24	00885464	Water Pump ROBIN	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885567	GAS ELECTRICAL COOKER OVENER	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
26	00248363	TABLE	GOOD	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329276	AIRCONDITIONER	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00248261	AIRCONDITIONER	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885467	AIR CONDITIONER	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
27	00885661	AIR CONDITION	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329408	AIR CONDITIONER SANYO	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885565	AIR CONDITIONER LG	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
28	00885599	BOOKSHELF	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329889	WEIGHTING SCALE MACHINE	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329893	WEIGHTING SCALE MACHINE	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
29	00329026	SCANNER	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885871	WOODEN CUPBOARD	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
30	00329917	GENERATOR OLYMPIAN 20 KVA	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00694060	WATER DISPENSER	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
31	00329898	WEIGHTING SCALE MACHINE	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885595	TELEVISION	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
33	00375501	AIR CONDITIONER - WALL MOUNTED	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00248728	SCANNER	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329311	AIR CONDITIONER DAIKIN	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
34	00375063	WATER DISPENSER	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00375064	WATER DISPENSER MP SHED	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
35	00694091	DIGITAL WEIGHING SCALE	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329295	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
36	00471545	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329334	PRINTER	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
37	00329790	LAPTOP MACBOOK AIR / PRO	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471493	PHOTOCOPIER KYOCERA	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
38	00248911	PRINTER	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00375678	PRINTER	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
39	00248662	PRINTER	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329989	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
40	00375645	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329786	MONITOR - HP COMPAQ FLAT SCREEN	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
41	00329024	PRINTER	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329164	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
42	00885523	LAPTOP	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00375643	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
43	00471766	CPU	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329178	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
44	00471291	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471312	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
45	00329856	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471314	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
46	00329178	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00329912	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
47	00169723	PHOTOCOPIER	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00375037	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
48	00885454	CPU	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471522	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
49	00471584	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471523	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
50	00471585	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885445	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
51	00471586	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471525	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM

51	00471587	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471526	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
52	00471588	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
53	00471589	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
54	00471590	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885458	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
55	00471591	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471546	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
56	00471570	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00537001	LAPTOP DELL LATITUDE E5470	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
57	00471571	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00537005	LAPTOP DELL LATITUDE E5470	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
58	00471572	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
59	00471573	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00537899	LAPTOP-DELL INSPIRON 5767	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
60	00471575	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	20008509	LAPTOP-DELL LATITUDE 7490	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
61	00471576	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
62	00471577	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471298	HP Desktop	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
63	00471578	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
64	00471579	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
65	00471581	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00537002	LAPTOP DELL LATITUDE E5470	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
66	00471582	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00537008	LAPTOP DELL LATITUDE E5470	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
67	00471583	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	20002963	LAPTOP DELL LATITUDE 7280	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
68	00471592	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00537898	LAPTOP-DELL INSPIRON 5767	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
69	00471593	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	20008507	LAPTOP-DELL LATITUDE 7490	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
70	00471594	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885508	IPAD 2 64GB	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
71	00471596	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885515	IPAD 2 64GB	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471597	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
72	00471600	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471602	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
73	00471605	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471606	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471620	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
74	00375914	APC SMART UPS 1500 VA FOR PORT OFFICE	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471629	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
75	00375915	APC SMART UPS 1500 VA FOR PORT OFFICE	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471634	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00694221	UPS -	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471487	UPS	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
76	00471638	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471299	DESKTOP	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
77	00471639	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885514	UPS APS SMART 1500	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
78	00885893	PRINTER	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471478	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885675	DOCKING STATION DELL	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
79	00537011	MONITOR DELL PROFESSIONAL P2016	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885978	DOCK STATION	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
80	00537012	MONITOR DELL PROFESSIONAL P2016	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00537013	MONITOR DELL PROFESSIONAL P2016	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00537014	MONITOR DELL PROFESSIONAL P2016	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
81	00537015	MONITOR DELL PROFESSIONAL P2016	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00537018	MONITOR DELL PROFESSIONAL P2016	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
82	00471491	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00537724	PRINTER ZEBRA BARCODE	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
83	00537632	PRINTER-BARCODE	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885457	HP MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
84	00375939	MONITOR	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00885472	MONITOR	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
85	00169875	HP FLAT SCREEN - MONOTOR	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00026039	DELL MONITOR	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
86	00329830	MONITOR LCD WIDE SCREEN	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471756	MONITOR - MACBOOK APPLE THUNDERBOLT	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
87	00885470	HP MONITOR	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
88	N/A	BATTERIES 12V	24 PCS	DAR ES SALAAM
	00694247	LAPTOP	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
89	00885473	MONITOR	BROKEN	DAR ES SALAAM
	00471350	LAPTOP	NOT WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
90	00329186	Monitor	WORKING	DAR ES SALAAM
	00694248	LAPTOP	NOT WORKING	

ActionAid Tanzania builds six pit-latrines at school in Kilwa

By Beatrice Philemon

ACTIONAid Tanzania through Local Right Programme (LRP) has constructed six pit-latrines at Matandu Primary School in Kilwa District Council, Lindi Region to enhance a healthier teaching and learning environment for both pupils and teachers.

LRP Project Coordinator in Kilwa District, Steven Benard revealed this recently while briefing journalists and Action Aid staff who visited the school to talk to pupils and witness what has been done to help them learn in a conducive environment.

"We have decided to construct a pit-latrine worth 8m/- because lack of access to toilets can seriously interfere with children's education," he said.

Action Aid Kilwa has built toilet facilities for the pupils because having the best toilets has meant the students can spend more time in class and reduce movement of pupils to their home.

So far LRP is being implemented in eight villages in Kilwa District that includes Njinjo, Lihimaliao Kusini, Lihimaliao Kaskazini, Matandu, Mandawa, Kiwawa, Singano and Nangulukulu villages.

For her part, Matandu Primary School Head teacher Mwajuma Wakambi added that a total of 893 pupils at Matandu Primary School are now enjoying the right to education.

The construction of latrine will help pupils to take their lessons comfortably rather than moving from the school to their home to find toilets or in bushes as toilets are now found at school.

"We expressed thanks to ActionAid Kilwa to support us because right now attendance of pupils has improved, pupils spend more time in school for more studies and have been able to understand their rights, something which was not there before," she explained.

Wakambi insisted that the construction of latrines will enhance a healthier teaching and

learning environment to both pupils and teachers because it reduced unnecessary movements to search places to help themselves and this increased morale of pupils and teachers by having a better place to stay.

A Standard VI pupil, Muzinat Mwale said she was thankful to ActionAid Kilwa for supporting them with the latrine so that they can study in a good environment.

She explained that before ActionAid Kilwa intervention, attendance in school was very poor especially for girls during the menstrual cycle while others were going into the bushes.

"We are happy now, we will always remember the project coordinator for taking serious measures to support us, the construction of pit latrine has reduce queues in toilet during the break time," she acknowledged adding that although ActionAid has built a toilet to the school, they still need donors who can help them with water wells for drinking water and toilet use.

She said they depend on dams and water harvesting during the rainy season for drinking and toilet use or sometimes they just carry gallons from home so that they can have water at school.

For his part, Standard VI pupil Ramadhan Kani said, apart from pit-latrines, under LRP, pupils have been able to understand their rights.

"We've learnt about children's rights - like children's rights to participate, children's right to get an education, children's rights to be able to be heard, every child has the right to basic needs and every child has the right to access what they need to have a good life and others," he noted.

Highlighting on other challenges facing the school, chairman of Matandu Njenga Suburb, said lack of safe drinking water is the main challenge facing the school as during the dry season, pupils suffered a lot to get water only depending on dams.



Coca-Cola Kwanza business development and commercial director Josephine Msailwa (L) hands over a 'bajaj' to one of the firm's major distributors, Silvanus Swai, in Dar es Salaam yesterday in recognition of his outstanding performance in the last four months. Looking on (R) is the company's sales director, Eric Ongara. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TANZANIA Investment Center (TIC) and Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority (ZIPA) have agreed to work together in twelve investment promotion areas with the purpose of strengthening the sector between governments.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday soon after signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), TIC Director Maduhu Kazi said among the things they have agreed upon is to promote investment attractions of both sides in different exhibitions.

According to the arrangement, Kazi said the two will join forces as far as exchange of investment information is concerned, research related activities which are crucial

TIC, ZIPA agree to work together in twelve investment promotion areas

in investment promotions and also exchange experience in investment matters. "There are some areas where our fellow ZIPA has enough experience more than us and we also have experience in some areas so they will need to gain from us," he intoned.

Kazi highlighted that even before the signing of the MoU they had already started to work together in the recent International Trade Fair "sabasaba" at the Julius Nyerere ground where they emerged number two in the exhibitions.

The TIC Director said in line with

the settlement, there is room for improvement where both sides can increase anything they wish beside the 12 areas they had agreed before. He added that there is a joint committee which is going to coordinate the implementation of the MoU with the mandate to remind each side of the obligations in the signed MoU.

"We have agreed to work together in various investment activities as long as investment is concerned, TIC will speak on behalf of ZIPA in the event that they are not present and they will do the same where we

are not present," said Maduhu.

ZIPA director general Shariff Ali Shariff underscored that collaborations between TIC and ZIPA intend to strengthen the investment sector in both the mainland and Zanzibar.

He said they plan to conduct annual investment day which will be conducted one year in Zanzibar and the next year in Dar es Salaam.

Shariff said among their obligations in their MoU is to advise the two governments to eliminate laws and regulations that obstruct investment.



Kence Foundation director Kenneth Fulgence (C) pictured in Moshi yesterday presenting a wheelchair to Dr Meseriaki Lobulu (3rd-L), a representative of the municipality's Mawenzi Referral Hospital, donated in support of the hospital. Others are members of Lions Club of Kilimanjaro and Moshi-Kibo, which donated personal protective equipment - mainly targeting Covid-19 infections. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

Foundation donates wheelchair to Moshi referral hospital

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

MOSHI-based non-governmental organization-KENCE foundation has donated a wheelchair to Mawenzi referral hospital to help patients with different physical disabilities.

Speaking during a handover event yesterday at Mawenzi referral hospital, KENCE Foundation Director-General, Kenneth Lwejuna said the donated wheelchair will be used by medical attendants in the provision of services.

The walking assistive device was handed over to a representative of the Kilimanjaro Regional Medical Officer, Dr Erick Atugonza.

He said they were earlier informed of the shortage of such devices at the health facility. "We have donated a special wheelchair to be used by medical attendants to improve service delivery," said Lwejuna.

He added that the foundation through its health support program has embarked on creating awareness on different health matters to youth, women, and girls.

He said youth are educated on reproductive health as well as how

to prevent themselves from being infected with COVID-19. "Most of our health facilities do not have enough staff to conduct such programs, we are doing this support of government efforts," he said.

He explained that his organization will continue providing assistive devices to other hospitals countrywide.

Representing the RMO, Dr Erick Atugonza commended the foundation's donation saying it has come at the right time as the hospital face a shortage of such facilities.

He appealed to the other organizations and well-wishers to assist the hospital with medical equipment as the government strives to further improve the provision of health services in the country.

Meanwhile, Lions Club International District 411C through the Lions Clubs of Moshi-Kibo and Kilimanjaro has donated sanitizers and handwashing soaps to be distributed to different hospitals in the region.

The items were handed over to the Kilimanjaro Regional Medical Officer.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

IN enhancing diplomacy and economic growth between Malawi and Tanzania, Ileje district commissioner, and his Chitipa counterpart in Malawi have met to put up implementation strategies for building up ties between the two countries.

The meeting was held at Chitipa in Malawi on Wednesday that

Ileje DC meets her counterpart in Malawi for discussions

also involved various officials and experts.

At the meeting Ileje district commissioner from Songwe Region, Anna Gidarya requested Chitipa District officials to deal with various obstacles that hinder economic production.

She stressed the need for increased crops production and opening of markets at Ileje and Chitipa towns for economic growth and payment of levies to relative authorities. "Among others, we have discussed issues of peace which is the basis for economic growth, how

to prevent the spread of Covid-19 infections as well as crops and livestock diseases at Isongole border post that has been improved due to the completion of Mpemba-Isongole tarmac road," she added.

The meeting also endorsed a joint plan to fight criminals using the

border post by hiding themselves in one country after committing crime in the other as well as prevention of smuggling activities along the border.

For his part, Chitipa District Commissioner, Stuart Ngoka praised Tanzania for organising the

joint meeting that aimed to discuss challenges and other obstacles in order to enhance economic growth of both sides.

He added that in future they expect to tour Ileje District to inspect and learn about various development projects under implementation.



Tanzania Investment Centre executive director Dr Maduhu Kazi (2nd-R) pictured at Dodoma Airport on Wednesday welcoming a visiting Elsewedy Electric delegation led by the Cairo-based firm's CEO, Ahmed Elsewedy (2nd-L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Company to establish fertiliser making plant in Dar es Salaam

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

A CAIRO based company—Elsewedy Electric has shown interest to construct a modern fertiliser industry in Dar es Salaam which will be operated using natural gas.

The move is expected to reduce the country's dependence on imported fertilisers, according to the Minister for Investment, Geoffrey Mwambe.

Mwambe made the statement when commenting on his recent tour to Egypt insisting the company will invest heavily in Tanzania.

Elsewedy Electric is one of the contractors at Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project (JNHHP) which is expected to produce 2,115MW. The project implementation has now reached 54 per cent.

He said his ministry and that of energy and minerals are working together to ensure the investor is supplied with natural gas for production to start in near future.

"Discussions among our experts and investors are on-going on how to seal the deal so that they start using natural gas in their production, the demand for fertilisers is high, hence the need to enhance productions," said Mwambe.

He said the coming of the industry will

fill the existing fertilisers gap and enable the government to save monies used to import the product.

Mwambe added that the Egyptian investors also want to invest in construction of industrial parks measuring two million square meters. The industrial park will accommodate more than 50 industries.

He said President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been advocating for the establishment of industrial parks to attract investors.

The minister said that he recently visited Egypt to attend a workshop on investment which attracted ministers responsible for investment and directors of investment centres from different countries.

"I used the conference to tell investors the available investment opportunities in our country, most of them promised to visit Tanzania to see the possible areas of investment," he said.

He said Elsewedy Electric is not a new company in Tanzania because it is constructing a big electric cable factory in Kigamboni which is expected to start production in October this year. He said the electrical firm plans to build a college for training of experts in similar fields.

The company has invested in different countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe.

Dairy board bent on putting up 4 centres for collecting milk

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Dairy Board (TDB) is set to build four major milk collection centers (MCC) worth 200m/- in an effort to improve the performance of the vital sector in the country.

TDB registrar George Msalya said yesterday that the proposed MCC will be installed at Mkuranga, Rufiji, Kisarawe districts in Coastal Region and Karagwe district in Kagera Region.

"The target is to ensure a professional milk value chain, and we are expecting to implement the project in cooperation with the parent ministry," he stated.

According to him, the board will continue searching for more funds to enable it to install more milk collection facilities in different areas of the country with an eye to ensuring the milk being produced by dairy farmers is collected and stored professionally.

"Tanzania is facing an acute shortage of milk supply," he said, detailing further that demand for milk in the country currently stands at 12 billion litres in a year but what is being produced is only 3.4 billion liters, which means there is a deficit of at least 9 billion liters.

However, he observed that most of the dairy farmers are yet to channel their milk through the formal system, the development which denies milk processing plants to amass needed milk volume.

Available statistics show that there are at least 99 milk processing factories in Tanzania with the capacity to produce 865,600 liters per day, but due to low production and availability of milk from farmers the industries are only processing 203,600 liters, estimated as 23.52 per cent of production capacity.

"The poor supply is being attributed among others, to unfriendly urban-rural road infrastructure networks that are frustrating farmer's ability to timely distribute their milk to processors," Msalya specified.

In Tanzania, there are currently a total of 221 MCC initiated by the board in different areas countrywide, whereby, out of the number, at least 717 have been established with special milk cooling tanks using professional ability to safely preserve milk for a weeklong period, and at capacity to cool a total of 352,098 liters a day.

Through 2019/20, the country produced 3.01 billion liters of milk, out of which, 2.1 billion liters were produced from domestic dairy cows and 0.1 billion liters was from crossbred dairy cows.

In 2017/18, Tanzania imported 20,920,537.58 LMEs Kg, valued at 30,290,485,222/- and during 2018/19 the importation rate stood at 617,448,655Kg.

However, due to the advancement of Ultra High-Temperature Processing (UHT) technology in Tanzania, the country's liquid milk equivalent (LME) importation has kept declining.

Also, the record proves that Tanzania has successfully managed to increase the number of crossbred dairy cattle at the national level 3.8 times from 783,000 in 2017/18 to 1,294,882 in 2018/19, the development which witnessed the country's milk production expanded from 2.4 billion liters to 2.7.



The target is to ensure a professional milk value chain, and we are expecting to implement the project in cooperation with the parent ministry



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More care needed in EAC single-currency initiatives

HIGH-LEVEL secretariat officials at the Arusha headquarters of the East African Community (EAC) have declared intent to start using a single currency from early next year.

That means that this is something to be done within the current financial year - that is, 2021/2022 - in a situation where no such indication or inkling of preparations to that effect was evident in the government budget a couple of months ago.

Such a move would also have elicited a detailed statement of monetary policy movement and even a presidential address to the National Assembly. This is what happened in 2014 at the time of forming the 'coalition of the willing'.

It is undeniable that there has been a sea change in attitudes concerning major bloc-level projects like the common market, the free movement of goods, people and capital, as well as auxiliary ones like the envisaged common currency and - ultimately - the political federation.

Most of these are however still in the drawing stages or the key issues are being ironed out, and it was a bit surprising to hear EAC Secretary General Dr Peter Mathuki making the declaration as to start using an EAC single currency this soon.

He had details on the advantages of having a single currency to boost intra-EAC trade but was much less clear on fiscal and monetary readiness for that.

Taking a businessman's attitude rather than that of a fiscal expert, he said that the technical process to that effect would be fast-tracked in order to have it completed before the end of this year, as "we are late and need to run".

The secretary general will be aware of the fact that such fast-tracking is in the ambit of the summit - heads of member states - to direct the relevant central banks to make such liaisons.

This statement can be interpreted as reflecting the wishes of certain quarters that the process be fast-tracked, thus exercising a certain amount of pressure on others, or that it is wishful thinking. But it is clear that his need to be backed by the partner state's central bank governors.

The occasion itself was a CEOs Roundtable breakfast engagement on East African integration co-organised by the East African Business Council and KCB Bank.

The all-important issue is thus whether all the EAC partner states are truly ready for a common currency, two years earlier than tentatively set out.

Dr Mathuki said that the biggest barrier to intra-EAC trade is the presence of different currencies, so this must be sorted out with one currency - used across all borders.

This affirmation has admittedly plenty of insight, but it overstates the issue as traders know full well what any currency's banknote is worth in any transaction.

Still, using a single currency is an anchor of integrated economic activity in that it creates a virtually irreversible aspect of reality as to how economic life is organised, needing something close to a revolution to throw it backwards once again.

This is what happened late 1976 when policy divergence and political mistrust brought down the old East African Community. No lessons from that experience for the EAC we now have?



Moving van sales to pre-sales minimises friction from supply chain in East Africa



By Andrew Dawson

VAN sales make up the vast majority of the route to market in East Africa, and the market itself is complex and revolves around cash purchasing.

There is lack of visibility throughout the chain, which makes orders and sales difficult to track - and it is challenging to accurately forecast demand.

Automation has massive potential to revolutionise the route to market in the region, moving van sales to pre-sales to increase visibility, remove friction and, ultimately, enable just in time (JIT) manufacturing to maximise efficiency and profitability.

This removes many of the complexities of van sales, enhances efficiency and bolsters their security by eliminating cash.

Challenges and complexity

Most retailers in the main market in East Africa make use of cash or mobile money transfer services, but they also operate on credit, only paying for orders on delivery.

There is also the challenge that, by the time drivers arrive, they may not have the stock the retailer ordered, so invoicing must be done on the fly or changed. The drivers must then hold the cash payments, and it is difficult to keep track accurately.

The wholesaler is therefore carrying the risk for stock loss and theft, lost payments and more, for anywhere between 24 hours and a



week.

There is also potential for error with such a manual and laborious ordering process. The lack of visibility makes the entire process difficult to track, and also prevents any sort of intelligence or analytics from being performed based on sales data.

Automation is key

Digitisation of the value chain delivers the opportunity to automate the van sales operation and provide line of site from the distributor right down to the retailer.

With intelligent technology solutions, drivers or sales representatives (the elements that make up the term 'van sales') will be able to generate invoices on delivery as sales are made, for enhanced accuracy. They will also be able to log payments to enable better tracking.

From a wholesaler and distributor perspective, a platform with a level of intelligence will enable analysis

of data around the sales of products and the product mix in relation to the specific van routes.

This, in turn, will empower the distributor to optimise van sales by stocking vans more effectively based on demand and requirements.

On the back end, automation allows for enhanced stock management as well as allowing for moneys received and invoices to be cross-checked and enabling a settlement process to be put into place to ensure payment. This takes much of the complexity and error-prone processes away from van sales.

From van sales to pre-sales

The ultimate goal is to shift the van sales environment to pre-sales, which has massive benefits for all parties in the value chain. Pre-sales will mean that retailers place - and pay for - their orders in advance, and then wholesalers and distributors will fulfil these orders.

For drivers, pre-sales means that they no longer need to collect money, so they do not carry cash. This makes them safer on the roads, as they will no longer be a target for theft. They can also become more efficient when delivering, because they no longer need to spend time negotiating and selling goods.

Retailers will benefit from regularity and consistency of deliveries, so that they know when they will receive their goods. They will also have a level of assurance that what they have ordered will actually be delivered, which cannot

be guaranteed through van sales as drivers may run out of stock before they arrive.

Retailers will also then be able to leverage the ability to do discounts and promotions to drive sales, as they will have predictable stock levels.

Wholesalers benefit from increased efficiency and, from a financial perspective, they are better able to maximise cash flow and manage credit lines. This is chiefly because they will be able to ensure that invoices and settlements match.

Manufacturers will be able to optimise turnaround and ensure that they are not over-producing or under-producing goods, both of which negatively impact the bottom line. They will also be able to perform more effective, fact-based forecasting and production processes, and ultimately move to JIT manufacturing.

Live data, enhanced visibility

To maximise the benefits of automation and data analytics, it is critical to have live lines of sight throughout the value chain, for instant feedback on stock and sales.

Data need to be real-time, to remove friction points in the van sales operation and to move from van sales to pre-sales with predictive capabilities. Digital transformation has the potential to revolutionise the value chain and the main market in East Africa.

• **Andrew Dawson** (pictured) is Managing Director of South Africa's MACmobile

Agro-tech start-ups useful but won't remove youth job crisis

TECHNOLOGY is perhaps the most important theme in today's world economic forums, and it isn't just for the better.

Automation is removing people from jobs by the thousand each year, but it is also the repository of hope for those elbowed out by robots. Can they, perhaps, remain in agriculture via smart phone apps?

Experts say that, for more young people to engage in agriculture, the government and other stakeholders must invest more in modern technologies that make farming easier and more productive.

An authoritative study shows that, despite the availability of a rich range of agritech innovations that could propel African farmers to profitability, only 23 per cent of the continent's youth engaged in agriculture use any form of agricultural technology - and this largely owing to a lack of financing and training.

Initiatives meant to bridge the gap and get more youths into farming are therefore of immense utility and relevance.

The study, as conducted in 11 countries including Tanzania, entailed responses from 30,000 young people and collected insights from hundreds of farmers and agricultural organisations.

The researchers tried to shore up the view that, in that agriculture is still stuck in long-gone eras, the tendency to alienate young people mostly drawn towards digital technology and related inventions by and large lives on.

In reality, the issue isn't the hoe versus the smart phone but harvests versus regular wages. That is the tone cultivated in a new report by

Heifer International, based on the survey.

The report asserts that farmers on the continent are missing out on technological innovations that could supercharge agriculture with opportunities for the youth.

The reason for this worry is that all technological uplift enables higher and wider levels of production, and therefore such uplifts of volume and ease of access often lead to sharp drops in pricing.

Without actually disowning the potential that technology holds for farming, the idea that new investments are needed to stimulate access to innovations and encourage African youth to consider taking up opportunities in farming is an exaggeration.

There are people in age groups other than youths who are taking up agriculture by the thousand each year, as a way of stabilising their savings instead of depositing the cash in banks, as this way it grows and becomes a source of steady income.

Like most other sectors, agriculture needs a disposition to plough earnings back into it, or use farms as an auxiliary source of family income.

Sadly, many youths are given to taking money as usable cash, instead depending on loan financing and unavoidably ending up with piles of non-payable debts.

We all need to appreciate the fact that the more mechanised agriculture is, the less it offers real jobs. This is to underscore the need to front an expertly prepared 'mix' of workable options as endeavours for our young people to venture into - and not just dangling particular sectors and sub-sectors.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR LICENCES UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority has received applications for Licences under the converged Licensing Framework from the following

APPLICANT NAME	TYPE OF LICENCE	SHAREHOLDERS/NATIONALITY	SHARES
HAWARITHA INVESTMENT LIMITED	Application Services Licence	Emmanuel Charles Nnko (american)	49 51

Pursuant to section 8 of Electronic and Postal Communication Act, Cap 306 of the Laws of Tanzania, written comments are hereby invited from any interested person in respect of the grant of the licences to the applicants to reach the Authority, within 14 days of publication of this notice. Such

Comments should be submitted to:

Director General

Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority

P.O.Box 474

14414 DAR ES SALAAM Tel: +255 22 241 2011-2

Fax: +255 22 241 2009

Email: dg@tcra.go.tz

21/8/2021

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EXTENSION FOR SUBMISSION DATE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR CONTENT SERVICES (COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING-RADIO) LICENCES

The notice is hereby given that submission date of Invitation to Apply (ITA) for hereunder mentioned Public Notice has been extended from **21st August, 2021 to 7th September, 2021.**

- The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) here is referred to as 'the Authority' is a statutory regulatory body responsible for regulating the electronic communications and postal sectors in Tanzania. The Authority was established under the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act No.12 of 2003 to regulate the electronic communications, postal services, and management of the National Radio Frequency spectrum in the United Republic of Tanzania.
- Pursuant to the Electronic and Postal Communications (Licence Procedure) Rules, GN.433, 2014, the Authority has identified Spectrum for provision of Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio) and hereby invites interested companies to apply for provision of Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio) in the following District Market segments for: -

Regional	Service Area	Number of Stations	
Songwe	Mbozi	2	
	Songwe	1	
	Momba	1	
	Ileje	2	
	Njombe	2	
Njombe	Ludewa	2	
	Wanging'ombe	1	
	Makete	2	
	Makambako	1	
	Kagera	2	
Kagera	Karagwe	2	
	Misenyi	1	
	Biharamulo	1	
	Kyerwa	2	
	Ngara	1	
	Missenyi (Mutukula)	1	
	Muleba	1	
	Kigoma	Kigoma Municipal	2
		Kibondo	1
		Buhigwe	1
Kasulu		1	
Uvinza		1	
Kakonko		1	
Geita,	Geita Township	1	
	Chato	1	
	Bukombe	1	
Shinyanga	Kahama Township	1	
	Kishapu	2	
	Shinyanga Municipal	1	
Shimiyu	Bariadi	2	
	Busega	1	
	Meatu	1	
Mtwara	Masasi	1	
	Mtwara Township	2	
	Tandahimba	1	
	Newala	1	
	Nanyumbu	1	

Rukwa	Sumbawanga Municipal	2
	Sumbawanga Rural	1
	Kalambo	1
	Nkasi	1
Manyara	Hanang	2
	Simanjiro	2
Ruvuma	Mbinga	2
	Nyasa	2
	Tunduru	2
	Songea Municipal	2
	Namtumbo	1
Lindi	Nachingwea	1
	Kilwa	1
	Mtama	1
	Liwale	1
	Lindi Town	2
	Ruangwa	1
	Morogoro	Gairo
Mlimba		1
Mvomero (Turiani)		1
Kilosa		1
Tanga	Handeni	2
	Kilindi	2
Mara	Musoma Town	1
	Rorya	1
	Mugumu	2
	Tarime	1
Iringa	Iringa Municipal	2
	Kilolo	1
	Mafinga (Mufindi)	1
Tabora	Tabora Municipal	2
	Igunga	1
	Kalua	1
	Urambo	1
Katavi	Nzega	1
	Mpanda	2
	Nsimbo	1
	Tanganyika	1
Mbeya	Milele	1
	Mbarali	1
	Chunya	1
Dodoma	Busokelo	1
	Mpwapwa	2

- Guidelines for requirements can be accessed on www.tcra.go.tz.

- Applications for provision of the above services should be submitted in sealed envelopes, clearly marked "Application for Provision of Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio) in (Insert the service area)" be delivered to the address below by 16:00 hours, **7th September, 2021.**

Director General,
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority,
Mawasiliano Towers,
20 Sam Nujoma Road,
P.O. Box 474, 14414
DAR ES SALAAM.

21/8/2021

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EXTENSION FOR SUBMISSION DATE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR UPGRADE OF CONTENT SERVICE (COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING-RADIO) LICENCE

The notice is hereby given that submission date of Invitation to Apply (ITA) for hereunder mentioned Public Notice has been extended from **21st August, 2021 to 7th September, 2021.**

- The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) here is referred to as 'the Authority' is a statutory regulatory body responsible for regulating the electronic communications and postal sectors in Tanzania. The Authority was established under the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act No.12 of 2003 to regulate the electronic communications, postal services, and management of the National Radio Frequency spectrum in the United Republic of Tanzania.
- Pursuant to Regulation 28 of the Electronic and Postal Communications (Licensing) Regulations, GN.57, 2018 and the Electronic and Postal Communications (Licence Procedure) Rules, GN.433, 2014, the Authority has identified Spectrum for Licensees who wish to upgrade their Licences for provision of Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio).
- Objective of the Invitation to Apply for Upgrade is to enhance media diversity, extend service coverage including bridging the existing radio broadcasting services gap in the **underserved (rural) and border** areas.
- In view of the above, the Authority hereby invites interested Licensees to apply for extension of provision of Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Radio) as follows: -

S/N	SERVICE UPGRADE CATEGORY	NUMBER OF REQUIRED UPGRADES
1	District to Regional	8
2	Regional to National	3

- Applicants are required to **propose service areas (excluding Dar Es Salaam, Arusha, Dodoma, Mbeya and Morogoro which have no spectrum)** as per requirements in No.3 above.
- Guidelines for requirements can be accessed on www.tcra.go.tz. The Authority shall review applications based on proposed service areas and shall have the right to the final service areas/available spectrum for shortlisted applicants.
- Applications for provision of the above services should be submitted in sealed envelopes, clearly marked "Application for Provision of Content (Radio Broadcasting) Services in (Insert the service areas)" be delivered to the address below by 16:00 hours, **7th September, 2021.**

Director General,
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority,
Mawasiliano Towers,
20 Sam Nujoma Road,
P.O. Box 474, 14414
DAR ES SALAAM.

21/8/2021

A depressing vacuum in Afghanistan coverage, as Kabul falls

By Jon Allsop

AFTER weeks of rapid advance as US forces withdrew from Afghanistan, the Taliban took Kabul, the capital on Sunday.

Ashraf Ghani, the president, fled the country; the US relocated its embassy staff to the airport for evacuation; thousands of civilians crowded there, too, in the desperate hope of also boarding a plane.

US troops fired in the air to disperse the crowds; according to Reuters, at least five people have died at the airport; according to the Wall Street Journal, at least three people were shot; the story is developing.

Images obtained by Al Jazeera showing Taliban officials inside the presidential palace circulated widely in the media. So did images captured by the Associated Press showing an American helicopter buzzing over the US embassy.

Often, the latter images came packaged with comparisons to the pictures that became synonymous with the US retreat from Saigon, at the end of the Vietnam war.

Some such commentary thoughtfully teased out the echoes of imperial folly and the many differences between then and now.

Much of it trafficked in optics-driven, America-centric gotcha journalism - sensationalising a cheap visual parallel and feasting off of US President Joe Biden's recent assurance that "there's going to be no circumstance where you see people being lifted off the roof of an embassy".

Incidentally, "gotcha journalism" is a pejorative term media critics use to describe interviewing methods that appear designed to entrap interviewees into making statements that are damaging or discreditable to their cause, character, integrity or reputation.

Some of Sunday's coverage felt untethered even from the more recent, isolated history of the US-led war in Afghanistan.

Pundits widely blamed Biden for the country's swift fall back into Taliban hands: Chuck Todd predicted, at the top of Meet the Press: "The collapse of Afghanistan into the hands of the Taliban is likely to haunt Mr Biden's legacy."

In a newsletter headlined "Biden's stain", Mike Allen of Axios called the collapse an "embarrassment" for the president.

The circumstances of the US withdrawal, of course, merit extremely sharp scrutiny. But - when it comes to the prosecution of the war, and the years of official lies told in its service - there is an awful lot of blame to go around, stretching right back to the George W. Bush administration, which started it.

Remarkably, the word "Bush" was not mentioned once on any of this Sunday's shows - an omission that was perhaps most glaring on ABC's This Week, where Jonathan Karl interviewed Liz Cheney almost as a pundit and not as the scion of Bush's vice president who herself took a top State Department post in the early part of the war.

Obama was scarcely mentioned either; there was some discussion as to whether Donald Trump should own some of the blame for the pullout strategy, but that was often as far back as things went.

As Liam Stack, a reporter at the New York Times, put it on Sunday: "The entire US governing class is implicated in this... every official or DC think tanker or cable news



talking head you see on TV today."

The list of the complicit includes sections of the media, and yet the dominant tone in much mainstream commentary and coverage on Sunday was not one of humble self-reflection but rather high-pitched, almost ex-nihilo, indignation and shock.

As numerous observers have noted, many major news organisations lost interest in the war in Afghanistan - at least as a major story - as it became a quagmire, and have only returned to it recently with the endgame in sight.

"Ask yourself how often Afghanistan has been a lead story for the last twenty years. And then ask yourself if it will be in a week," Oliver Willis, a progressive journalist, tweeted.

He added: "American media are putrid at covering the world and it directly lead to a public constantly surprised by topics and issues."

In addition to sins of omission, media watchers highlighted sins of commission, seeing a clear pro-war slant in some of the coverage. Part of the problem here, surely, is the common media fallacy that it's a story when new bad things happen, whereas the status quo just exists.

Not that blame should be the priority in coverage right now - that should be the Afghan people endangered by the Taliban surge.

Many reporters have worked to centre their plight, but much associated punditry has treated their country's collapse as primarily a story about US domestic politics. At the top of This Week, Karl cited the US death toll in Afghanistan without saying how many lives the war has claimed overall.

Afghan voices have been present, certainly, but sometimes secondary. Ussama Makdisi, a history professor at Rice University, took the New York Times to task for fail-

ing to quote any in a news-analysis piece focused on "US miscalculations".

Afghan reporters are covering the story in the face of grave personal danger; some of their coverage has reached US audiences, but American networks, in particular, have often privileged discussions with US-based politicians and analysts, and dispatches from big-name foreign correspondents who have flown into Kabul to cover its collapse. Not that there are always easy solutions here, necessarily: as CNN's Clarissa Ward noted from Kabul on Sunday, there's no indication yet that Western journalists are in anything like as much danger as their Afghan counterparts.

The Afghan journalists, and everyone else in immediate danger, deserve immediate empathy and focus.

We can also usefully help them hold the Biden administration to account - by scrutinising the (questionable) effectiveness of the visa programmes it instituted for Afghans who worked with US officials, NGOs, and news outlets; by asking what, if anything, it plans to do to help those who don't qualify.

Furthermore, we can do so by reminding readers, as journalist Atos-

sa Araxia Abrahamian put it on Sunday, that visas and processing times aren't immutable facts of nature but a political choice.

Reducing coverage to embassy-helicopter photos isn't just a cliché. It implicitly orients the story around those with the power to leave.

There is much more on Afghanistan, including the press-freedom threat. As I wrote recently, the Taliban's advance had already begun to devastate press freedom in Afghanistan before fighters got close to Kabul.

Now they control the country, and journalists on the ground face a mortal threat, with reports already filtering through of Taliban militants raiding the homes of women reporters, in particular.

Ben Smith reported, for the NY Times, that Kabul-based staffers for US government-owned broadcasters, including Radio Azadi and the Voice of America, are stuck in the city and fear reprisals from the Taliban. Officials at the US Agency for Global Media say they are "doing everything in their power" to help.

There is also a second press-freedom threat in that, while the Biden administration announced recently that it would create a special visa programme for Afghans who

worked for US-based news outlets and NGOs, it said that those eligible would have to leave Afghanistan for a third country and apply for the visa from there - an already-onerous requirement that now looks even tougher.

On Friday, officials in neighbouring Pakistan made things a little easier, announcing a relaxation of visa rules for staffers of international media outlets in Afghanistan who plan to leave the country via Pakistani territory.

The British government also recently made visa commitments to some Afghan media workers. On Sunday, a group of German news organisations urged their country's government to follow suit.

Part of the broader context: On Friday, Spencer Ackerman wrote in Forever Wars, a Substack newsletter that he recently launched, that we shouldn't think of the Taliban's victory as a departure from America's war, but rather as a continuation of it. "When the US withdraws from a war, the ensuing suffering of innocent people becomes, to the 'national security' community, an argument for re-escalation," Ackerman wrote.

"It is far easier to consider the bloodletting that follows the US presence to be merely the result of its absence. But to take that position is to wash the blood from American hands that waged the war, all the while claiming that the retreat is the contemptible hand-washing," he added.

Also part of the broader context: On a recent episode of How We Got Here, a new podcast hosted by Columbia Journalism School, Sheila Coronel spoke with scholars Daniel Immerwahr and Vernadette Vicuña Gonzalez about the echoes of US empire in the news, including in Afghanistan.

"The United States is currently running drones, and occasionally doing airstrikes throughout the world," Immerwahr said, adding: "At a time when we are considering police violence of the United States, that kind of overseas thing, if it happens in Afghanistan, stays in Afghanistan. That has basically just been given a pass by reporters for the most part."

CJR

Gorbachev recalls August 1991 coup, upholds defending values of democracy, rule of law

MOSCOW

THE Soviet Union's first president, Mikhail Gorbachev, has said that the lessons of the 1991 government coup are still relevant today and both society and the State must guard the principles of democracy.

"Defending the principles of democracy and the rule of law and preventing any possibility of the usurpation of power and adventurist actions should always be the centre of attention for both society and the authorities," he told the media here this Wednesday.

"I do believe that Russia's democratic road of develop-

ment is the sole, correct one, and only on this track will our country be able to develop and cope with any problems," he added.

The former Soviet leader looked back on the events of those days, saying: "When the plotters isolated me in Foros, turned off all means of communication and sent their representatives to me, I emphatically dismissed their demand for signing a state of emergency decree. I described their actions as a criminal escapade."

[Foros is a resort town (an urban-type settlement, legally) in Crimea's Yalta municipality of the Autonomous Republic

of Crimea, a territory incorporated by Russia as the Republic of Crimea.

The Soviet leaders had several state cottages or country houses built near Foros. One of these came to international attention during the 1991 Soviet coup d'état attempt, when Gorbachev had been vacationing at the time of the coup. His luxury dacha had been fired upon a couple of times during the capture, after which he was placed under house arrest.]

Gorbachev stressed that the "plotters' scheme was doomed thanks to a firm stance taken by the Soviet president, the

Russian president and the courage of thousands of Muscovites, along with many public figures and legislators".

"People did not want to go back to the previous way of life. The democratic institutions that emerged as a result of perestroika have stood the test of time by and large," he noted.

He stressed that the plotters changed their "version of events" many times", noting further: "First, they repented, but then followed the advice of one of the conspirators to blame everything on Gorbachev. But facts are facts. They were established by the

investigation of the coup and they cannot be denied."

Gorbachev recalled that the August events complicated and weakened the positions of the Soviet Union's president and created conditions where it was incredibly hard to go ahead with efforts for preserving the Soviet Union.

He said: "The republics adopted declarations of independence. But certain chances of preserving the Union on a renewed basis still remained. However, in December (1991) a second blow followed: collusion by the leaders of Russia, Ukraine and Belarus, who declared the termination of the

Soviet Union's existence.

He pointed out that the coup's organisers, in their attempts to excuse themselves, claimed that their prime concern was preserving the country, "but the effects of their adventure proved catastrophic".

"They bear a tremendous share of responsibility for the country's collapse," he quipped.

August 19 went down in the history of modern Russia as a failed coup attempt. A group of the Soviet Union's top officials, critical of Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of reforms and the draft of a new Union Treaty, created what they called the

State Committee for the State of Emergency in an attempt to prevent the elimination of the Soviet Union. Troops and armoured vehicles were moved into Moscow and the capitals of Soviet republics.

Then Russian President Boris Yeltsin branded the State Committee for the State of Emergency and its actions as a government coup attempt. The coup failed thanks to mass civilian demonstrations in support of the legitimate authorities.

Russian News Agency - Tass

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Bringing youth empowerment food security together in Africa

By Special Correspondent

THIS year, World Humanitarian Day has placed a spotlight on the immediate human cost of the climate crisis. Much attention has been given to the devastating floods across Europe and heatwaves in North America and the Mediterranean region. But the impact of climate change continues to be overlooked in countries across Africa, where due to a changing climate, bigger challenges lie such as ensuring food security.

In March, the Food and Agriculture Organisation released a report highlighting extreme weather disasters leading to agri-related losses of about \$30 billion in sub-Saharan Africa and North Africa between 2008 and 2018.

With heavy reliance on rain-fed farming, small-holder farmers in sub-Saharan Africa face unstable outcomes and uncertain futures. Drought is the single-greatest cause of agricultural production failure, with more than 34 per cent of production loss being attributed to prolonged shortages in water supply.

Changing rainfall patterns and higher temperatures have forced farmers to shorten the growing season. As droughts and floods occur with increasing frequency, food supply and income become insecure.

The pandemic has further undermined food security for the most vulnerable populations. In 2020, the UN's annual "State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World" study said an estimated 132 million people could go hungry, with hunger spreading fastest in Africa.

The pandemic, meanwhile, has

also affected the lives and livelihoods of young people - particularly their access to resources and economic independence - with many being forced to agree to precarious job conditions that provide them with inadequate social protection. Covid-19's impact raised the global unemployment rate among youth from about 13.5 per cent to 14.6 per cent in 2020, according to the International Labour Organisation (ILO). And so, as we move towards a post-pandemic world, we must place tools and opportunities in the hands of young men and women who need them most, so that they can become a driving force for - among other things - the transformation of food systems in Africa.

Indeed, there is hope both in today's youth and in the harnessing of simple innovations and technology.

Youngsters around the world are finding creative answers to the challenges that will define the future of our economy, environment and society. But they need support to reach their full potential.

Through facilitating the entry of young people into the economy and creating avenues of economic independence, humanitarian action can help tackle food insecurity and pave the way for a sustainable and productive global market. Youth empowerment can and will help manage the detrimental effects of climate change, all the while maintaining food security and paving the way for economic development.

Entrepreneurship can be one of the vehicles for sustainable change. Youth and vulnerable populations are often most in tune with the social, cultural and economic needs



A farmer ploughs the land as another seeds it in a rural area 15 kilometres from Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.

of their communities.

They are also aware of the impact of climate change and the repercussions of what we do on our planet. They are best-placed to tackle and build future food systems that are in harmony with the climate.

One common challenge is the access to resources, which has been exacerbated by the pandemic. This is where global humanitarian organisations are making a difference. Over the past 40 years, Alwaleed Philanthropies has championed youth empowerment and entrepreneurship to address humanitarian crises with a collaborative approach.

Harnessing the youth's energy and entrepreneurial spirit, the foundation is currently working with KickStart International to provide young farmers in Malawi, Mozambique and Nigeria with innovative tools and workable technologies to help improve food security.

This includes helping young farmers to find innovative ways, including irrigation, to build greater resilience in agricultural production.

Irrigation pumps allow farmers to plant and harvest multiple cycles of high-value crops throughout the

year, independent of the rains. Young farmers can save their rain-fed crops when the rains fail and replant quickly after floods or plagues of locusts.

By selling crops in the dry "hungry seasons" when food is scarce and prices are high, small holders can transform their farms into highly profitable family businesses, increasing farm incomes by up to 400 per cent, and allowing them to invest in education, health care and their futures.

To date, KickStart - with the help of Alwaleed Philanthropies and other partners - has delivered more than 350,000 irrigation pumps to low-income subsistence farmers that has led to the creation of 270,000 agro-enterprises, effectively transforming lives, and bringing 1.4 million men, women and children out of poverty while empowering young farmers who face structural exclusions in the sector.

But more can be done.

With the world rapidly changing, we have a unique opportunity to shape the future with social and economic solutions to empower youth across the world. We can contribute to a diversified economy and bring

new products and methods to the market, and generate job opportunities.

Governments across the world must place youth skills development at the heart of their recovery plans. Equally, organizations across the globe must collaborate to support a thriving environment for the young leaders of tomorrow.

Ultimately, global recovery relies on standing in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable people.

On the occasion of World Humanitarian Day, I call on every young man and woman to be inspired by the drive and ambition of the aforementioned communities and harness their own global outlooks to address climate change, tackle food insecurity and support the creation of a more humane world.

Empowering young Africa girls through technology

By Special Correspondent

AFRICAN girl coders are taking the lead in ensuring gender equity and balance in technology on the continent, a field majorly dominated by their male counterparts.

Through Connected African Girls Coding Camp initiative, a joint programme of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in collaboration with UN Women and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), young girls are applying their coding skills that include Animation, Gaming, Turtles stitch, artificial intelligence, robotics and internet of things they acquire through the program training.

The initiative has held training camps for African girls

from across the continent in Ethiopia and Cameroon. The aim is to bridge the 23% digital divide between men and women on the continent.

Theresa John, 21, a university student from Tanzania is a beneficiary of the coding camps. With the skills she acquired on animation, she said she is creating awareness and encouraging girls in her community to pursue technology.

"Whenever I am working on an animation project, I have to involve the girls from my village so that they can see what I am doing and the results of it. This way they get interested in technology and see that it can be done," said Theresa.

"With my skills on coding I am able to show them that technology is very useful and

important, and it applies to real situations in the world. It is a tool to empower young people and create employment."

She says with the little money she makes from her projects she is able to take care of expenses at the university and pay for her internet.

However, the biggest challenge for Theresa is the fact that she has to use on laptop for a bigger group and access to the internet is limited.

Fatou Ndiaye from Senegal who is also a beneficiary of the coding camp attended the recent camp in Cameroon online. She showcased her online e-shop that she uses to sell clothing and bags online.

"Through my programming skills I was able to create the e-commerce shop by myself

where I sell my products and I am able to reach most people including those far away from my town," she said adding that the idea of an online shop came up after she attended the coding camp.

"Most young people have embraced online shopping because it saves time and gives you access to a variety of products faster. This is where the world is headed and as African girls, we should not be left behind."

The Connected African Girls Coding Camp Initiative is expected to reach more girls through more coding camps by 2022. This is in line with the United Nations Sustainable development goal (SDG) 5 on gender equity and SDG4 on education and skills development

In December 2020, the programme brought together over 3000 girls aged 17 - 25 from 32 African countries at the first coding camp. By 2022, 14 coding camps are expected to be organized to increase significantly the number of girls across Africa.

Jean-Paul Adam, ECA's Director for Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management, says to promote gender equity and ensure more girls take up technology, it is important to create platforms for women to collaborate and share their knowledge on coding. This will tremendously have an impact on the economic growth.

"Women can challenge the existing stereotypes on science, technology and innovation if given an opportu-

nity and the right platform to showcase their skills."

He said although the percentage of women in the labor force has over the years gradually increased, it remains significantly lower in the technology sector.

"The significant lack of connectivity for women is undermining their capacity to reach their economic potential. A situation that urgently needs to be addressed," said Mr Adam.

Letty Chiwara, UN Women Representative to Ethiopia, the Africa Union Commission and the ECA, said Girls face discrimination in the sector because computer science has always been seen as a course for boys, not girls. Therefore, boosting women's digital literacy today would

have far-reaching inter-generational implications.

"Women are uniquely suited to prepare younger generations to participate in the digital economy, a reason why government should empower more women in the fields of science and technology," she said.

The third coding boot camp was held Buea, Douala and Yaounde in Cameroon on July 5 - July 17 where about 8500 young females aged between 12 and 25 from all over Africa attended.

ECA is organizing the next Connected African Girls Coding Camp initiative in Guinea in November. There is also an innovation fair scheduled for September in Cameroon where the girls can showcase their projects and win prizes.

Chikungunya vaccine first to succeed in Phase 3 trial

By Special Correspondent

IN a significant step in the fight against tropical disease, the mosquito-borne viral disease Chikungunya may become preventable with a new vaccine candidate from French biotech Valneva that just passed phase III trials.

The results of the phase III trial revealed that a single dose of the live attenuated vaccine developed by Valneva induced the production of neutralizing antibodies in 98.5% of volunteers out of a total of 4,115 people.

There is just a whiff of controversy to a trained ear in those results. The gold standard for vaccine efficacy are randomized efficacy trials in an outbreak area where the percentages of vaccinated and placebo-injected volunteers can be measured and compared, says Scott Weaver, the scientific director of Galveston National Laboratory in Texas, US, and an expert on tropical viruses.

"With very little surveillance for

chikungunya in potentially suitable locations, and considering the sporadic and unpredictable nature of outbreaks, a traditional design of a phase III clinical trial would be very challenging," said Weaver, who was not involved in Valneva's trial.

"Fortunately, there is very good evidence that neutralizing antibodies generated by vaccination predict and provide protection, so the regulatory authorities are likely to grant preliminary approval based on this correlation of protection."

Valneva's CEO Thomas Lingelbach stressed that the FDA has approved the surrogate endpoint before starting the phase III trial, based on data from previous studies.

Valneva, which claims the lead in a race to bring the first chikungunya vaccine to market, estimates the global market for such a vaccine will reach over €420M by 2032. In the meantime, the vaccine candidate "could be a game-changer for travelers, military personnel and individuals at risk living in tropical



regions that have been limited to non-treatment interventions such as employment of insecticides, wearing long sleeves and pants, and other means to restrict exposure to vector mosquitoes," Lingelbach said.

Chikungunya is typically a non-fatal disease that can cause debilitating symptoms such as fever, rashes, chronic joint and muscle pains, and headaches that take months and sometimes years to resolve. It spreads very rapidly, mak-

ing it very hard to predict or control outbreaks; infected mosquito bites transmit the virus in nearly 100% of cases and it has been known to infect up to 75% of the population in areas affected during an outbreak.

Several attempts to create a chi-

kungunya vaccine since the 1960s have failed to bring a licensed shot to the market. In recent decades the virus has shown a tendency to mutate and to cause more severe symptoms while its geographical spread has expanded due to climate change, habitat destruction, and global travel.

This is a pattern affecting other tropical infectious diseases that are collectively known as neglected tropical diseases, which currently affect more than a billion people worldwide. In recent years, some progress has been made: a malaria vaccine has shown early promise in a phase I trial while the release of mosquitoes infected with a bacteria has curtailed dengue transmission by 77% in test areas. An equine encephalitis vaccine candidate is also in the works. The vast majority of NTDs, however, remain understudied.

"We have seen recent resurgences of yellow fever in Brazil and Africa despite a safe and effective vaccine developed over 80 years ago," Weaver added. "Inadequate surveillance, vaccine supplies and vaccine coverage, as well as growing insecticide resistance in many vector populations are some of the reasons."

Hichilema must rise to the occasion as Zambians ditch posturing for economic progress

Ringisai Chikohomero

ALMOST five million Zambians came out to vote on 12 August and overwhelmingly rejected incumbent Edgar Lungu as president. After five attempts, Hakainde Hichilema swept ahead to victory by over a million votes and secured a majority in the National Assembly.

The opposition victory transcended the numerous lines of polarisation that have characterised voting patterns in the past, such as ethnicity, regional affiliation and age. Now Hichilema will have to embody Kenneth Kaunda's 'one nation one Zambia' slogan in its fullness. With a mandate to lead for the next five years, Hichilema's United Party for National Development and the new president himself have their work cut out for them.

Lungu shot himself in the foot in the days before the elections. He abused the benefits of presidential power by deploying state-owned resources, stopping Hichilema's campaigns and sending the army onto the streets with a clear mandate to intimidate voters. This hit a sore spot for Zambians, reminding them of the threat that Lungu posed to democracy when he arrested, detained and imprisoned Hichilema in 2017.

Zambians have shown that the ballot is supreme, and politicians are accountable to the citizens. The election is an important demonstration of political maturity and democracy at work in southern Africa. The peaceful transfer of power has

become an entrenched political culture in Zambia since the first multi-party democratic elections in 1991.

However, in the last years of his reign, Lungu became increasingly autocratic, with clear intent to consolidate his power. He used the Covid-19 pandemic to deny the opposition space to mobilise and campaign. The police were deployed to frustrate and restrict opposition activities, and parties' access to state media was curbed.

Using all the benefits of incumbency, Lungu created an uneven playing field for the opposition. But as electoral defeat loomed, it was he – rather than the opposition – who claimed the polls were not free and fair. In the end, Lungu reluctantly conceded defeat, unwilling to risk his legacy and breach Zambia's long-standing political culture by being obstinate.

More than a vote for Hichilema, this election is a clear expression of frustration with Lungu's economic management – characterised as it was by policy inconsistency, the abandonment of economic fundamentals, accumulation of debt, and authoritarian tendencies.

The youth vote, which has been credited to some extent for the opposition's victory, reflects the views of a population segment that has been increasingly marginalised and stripped of economic opportunities. Zambians have borne the brunt of the ruling Patriotic Front's failures in the past 11 years and want tangible benefits, not political sloganeering. The president-elect has an enormous mountain to climb.



Hakainde Hichilema, President-elect of the Republic of Zambia.

and middle-income status for the country.

In his election manifesto, Hichilema was clear that the biggest task ahead was the economy. As an economist and successful businessman, he dedicated nearly two-thirds of his election manifesto to solving the economic malaise Zambia has been in since its independence in 1964. He has promised a new regime of debt management, economic stability, a return to macroeconomic fundamentals, stability, policy consistency

and international creditors were beginning to show impatience with the Patriotic Front government. Lungu's administration failed to provide clear policy direction and political will to rein in ballooning debt, government overspending and corruption.

Hichilema's victory is expected to build confidence in the country's institutions and political leadership. His profile as a successful and hard-working businessman will likely win

him favour with local business and international investors. Peaceful elections tend to usher in a sense of euphoria and expectation. As days fade into months, the true character of the new administration is revealed and tested. Zambians have expressed cautious optimism, calling for their new president to be given a chance. Hichilema has been received with goodwill. Only time will tell whether he can live up to his billing. DM

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BLOEMFONTEIN

EVEN as COVID-19 ravages communities across the continent, climate change is widening the gap between those who have access to water and sanitation – key elements in fighting the pandemic.

We know that only about 61% of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) population has access to safe drinking water and only 39% has access to adequate sanitation facilities.

Climate change continues to widen those gaps in SADC communities where an estimated 44 million people are food insecure. Climate change may have been a looming disaster in the past, but it has now materialised, ravaging our communities in the COVID-19 pandemic. We are compelled to act prudently, fast and sustainably.

This year's World Water Week, held from 23-27 August under the theme "Building Resilience Faster", recognises the need to find solutions to counter climate change and other water-related challenges.

The sustainable use of groundwater offers us a way to build resilience.

The majority of sub-Saharan Africans live in rural areas, and regionally, at least 70% of SADC inhabitants rely on groundwater. This calls for sustainable management of groundwater resources to protect vulnerable communities and strengthen them to build resilience during climate change.

However, there cannot be a silo response in our fight to build water resilience. Surface water talks to groundwater and vice versa. A holistic conjunctive approach to the utilisation of these co-

existing resources is indispensable to build resilience.

As you would know, when there's no surface water, you just see soil, but it does not mean that there is no more water. It just means the water has receded into groundwater. We can build resilience if we have well streamlined and robust strategies to manage these two water resources conjunctively.

Strategies are an integral part of realising our goals. However, if strategies are not followed by implementation, then all our efforts would be futile. Sadly, we have seen a regional trend where a lot of projects in SADC countries are piloted – and remain pilot projects, year after year.

We cannot afford to have designs that gather dust. We have pilots that demonstrate the viability of certain innovative principles and methodologies that have not reached the level of being upscaled or replicated. This means that these innovations do not reach the point of application where they could contribute to water security for the communities' livestock, industrial development and other human settlement activities that support people's livelihoods.

Yes, some challenges impede the successful implementation of projects including the lack of capacity and finances. However, the challenge of supporting the region's growing population of impoverished communities amidst dwindling resources is a daunting task that we need to overcome.

SADC-GMI has seen the tangible impact of safeguarding and uplifting communities through our pilot projects implemented at community level to provide groundwater. In Chimbiya

Building water resilience needs a holistic approach



Trading Centre, in the Dedza District, Malawi, a 100-metre deep borehole was drilled and equipped to supply potable water to about 15 000 people who benefit from the groundwater for their livelihood activities. This project boosted the economy of the local trading centre. The vision is to upscale this project model in Malawi to other communities across the SADC region to help

build resilience. Besides Malawi, we have also piloted innovative infrastructure projects to benefit communities in eight other SADC Member States. SADC-GMI constantly strives to demonstrate groundwater's invaluable role in building resilience through its sustainable use in the communities' livelihood and WASH activities.

Development is a collaborative process. SADC-GMI has partnered with River Basin Organisations and national water ministries across the SADC region to drive their mandate of promoting sustainable groundwater management and provide solutions to groundwater challenges in the SADC region.

At the core of our strategy is the continued endeavour to involve the very

community members that we serve. Communities' customs and traditions have been around much longer than any strategy that SADC-GMI may hope to implement to serve them. We, therefore, leverage citizen science and the knowledge that they have in supporting their communities in changing conditions.

Capacity-building is an integral part of building resilience in communities. SADC-GMI partnered with World Vision Zimbabwe to offer groundwater relief in the drought-prone Dite and Whunga communities in Zimbabwe.

The communities have committees that are greatly involved in the management of the borehole infrastructure and growing vegetables in the community gardens to support their local economy and livelihoods. Collaborative efforts such as these provide holistic and sustainable management of water resources.

SDG 6 is summarised by the United Nations (UN) as ensuring "availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. Our work in the water sector – including groundwater should ensure pivotal contributions to the achievement of SDG 6.

If COVID-19 has taught us anything, is that we need to proactively respond to the challenges we face. It has also taught us that we can successfully overcome these difficulties. Our actions need to be fast yet measured and should be inclusive of the people we intend to serve. That way, we can build water resilient communities. **IPS**

RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

JNHPP CAPABLE OF GENERATING POWER FOR THREE YEARS IN CASE OF DROUGHT - EXPERT

By Property Watch Reporter

In case of droughts, the Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project has capacity to continue generating electricity for three years in a row, thanks to its over 33.5 billion reservoir.

TanRoads Engineering Consulting Unit's resident engineer, John Mageni, told visiting CRDB Bank Plc's senior management and board members a fortnight ago that droughts lasting less than three years, will not make the mega project a white elephant.

Responding to questions and comments from the bank's high profile team which was led by Board Chairman, Dr Ally Laay and Managing Director, Abdulmajid Nsekela, Eng Mageni said that the mega project which will generate 2115 megawatts of power, will stop flooding downstream.

"We expect to start refilling the dam by November this year ahead of mid next year when power generation is expected to start," he said while responding to concerns by the bankers on the possibility of the deadline not being met because the project is only 54 complete.

The Tecu chief further noted that the mega the project's reservoir will also provide enough space for commercial fishing, water sports including boat rides for tourists. "This area will also attract a lot investment for those willing



Construction work going on at Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project along River Rufiji.

to build hotels, restaurants for tourists who will be coming here to see the dam because of

its uniqueness," he hinted.

The JNHPP is the fourth largest in Africa and with Unesco

approval that Julius Nyerere National Park remains a world heritage site, tourism will

likely grow in the area once the dam is completed in June 2022.

Responding to questions on local demand to consume the power generated at the dam, acting Tanesco Managing Director, Engineer Pakaya Mtamakaya said local consumption is set grow due to industrialization.

"But we will also export to neighbouring countries which have demand, we talking about countries like Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia," Eng Mtamakaya said while stressing that the countries' economic growth and government's rural electrification will increase demand.

CRDB Board Chairman, Dr Ally Laay and Managing Director, Abdulmajid Nsekela said their decision to invest in the mega project was right and that shareholders of the bank should expect more dividend payment from more profits to be generated. "I can assure my fellow investors that our money is safe in this project," Dr Laay said after the site visit. Nsekela whose bank has already provided more than 1trn/- in bridge financing to the project to help contractors proceed without hiccups as they await government payment, promised to provide more credit if required to do so. The mega project is being implemented by a joint venture of Arab Contractors and Elsewedy Electric of Egypt at a cost of over 6.5trn/-.

Ndugulile commends NMB Mkononi Plus as a boon for the market

By Property Watch Reporter

NMB Mkononi Plus digital which allows clients to transact online and buy products such as insurance cover through their smartphones, aligns well with the government's digitization process.

The Minister for Communications and Information Technology, Dr Faustine Ndugulile, said in Dar es Salaam this week while unveiling the product that it will speed up the process of more Tanzanians getting insured with their property.

"This is an excellent move that is in line with the digital economy aspirations of the government, which is doing all it takes to put in place supportive conditions for such

initiatives and other ICT services to thrive," Dr Ndugulile said.

He explained that the government through various undertakings has tremendously transformed the country's digital landscape consequently creating commercial opportunities that banks can exploit to serve the public commercially.

These include investment in the National ICT Backbone (NICTBB) project whereby so far 7,910-km of the fibre optic infrastructure has been completed in the country. The goal is to reach 15,000-km by 2025.

"The number of registered SIM cards has now reached 51 million with those accessing mobile money services being 32 million while another 29 million have access to internet. "These achievements



NMB Bank Plc headquarters in Dar es Salaam.

portray a rosy picture of the huge business potential in digital finance," he noted.

The launch of NMB Bank Plc's Mkononi Plus, according to the lender's Chief of Retail

Banking, Filbert Mponzi is yet another proof of the unrivalled innovation prowess of NMB in the market. Mponzi said the all-digital platform confirms NMB's sectoral leadership in serving the country with value added solutions.

"NMB Mkononi Plus is another outcome of our continued investment in digital transformation and innovation. This new solution if for serving all Tanzanians provided one has a connected smartphone," he noted.

Among other things, the platform includes BIMA XPRESS, which is a self-service solution that enables both customers and non-customers to buy insurance policies as well as report and file claims digitally. The bank officials said most importantly, NMB Mkononi Plus will empower its users to take more control of their banking and insurance experiences.

"Exceptional customer service is our priority. Modern, reliable digital convenience and simplified service are the main goals of NMB

Zanzibar, Far East drive boosts Lamu port business

NAIROBI

ZANZIBAR and Far East have proved to be Lamu port's major market as the third Maersk vessel and the fifth vessel since the port was opened three months ago scheduled to dock this weekend.

The third Maersk vessel Mv Seago Piraeus, is planned to arrive in Lamu on August 21 to discharge 100 twenty-foot equivalent unit (TEUs) from Salalah port which will then connect onto the vessel destined for Zanzibar. Early July, the first vessel by CMA CGM to make maiden call docked in Lamu from Soviet Union where it is expected to collect about 50 TEUs from Zanzibar to Far West.

Maersk Eastern Africa managing director Carl Lorenz said good business, partnership and collaboration with the Kenya Port Authorities (KPA), Kenyan government and all stakeholders has encouraged his company to invest more in the region. Mr Lorenz has also encouraged more companies to join hands and develop shipping and logistics sector effectively to contribute to the growth of the economy.

"The arrival of the third Maersk vessel marks another milestone in the long history we have in serving Kenya, through both Mombasa and Lamu by ensuring that importers and exporters in Eastern Africa are able to connect their cargo to all global markets. We shall remain close and focused in offering services to our customers and we shall continue to offer solutions to them," said Mr Lorenz.

Maersk and CMA CGM have docked two ship each since the Lamu port started its operationalisation on June 15 this year. The four vessels are Mv Spirit, Amul, MV CAP Carmel and MV Seago Bremerhaven. KPA said it is ready to handle any vessel at the Lamu port



Shipment being offloaded at the Lamu Port.

after it installed relevant cargo handling machines including panamax and post-panamax vessels with a capacity of over 10,000 TEUs.

Some of the operations equipment installed at berth number one of the three completed berth at the port include two Harbour Mobile Cranes, ICT infrastructure and we also have deployed multi-

skilled staff to ensure smooth operations. KPA has also committed to acquire Ship to Shore Gantry cranes in order to fully kit the three berths as it called upon other shipping lines to introduce services to the Port of Lamu.

The facility, which has since been operating on transshipment, is yet to start receiving transit cargo due to

incomplete road infrastructure connecting to major towns despite Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) geo-fencing and gazette Mombasa-Malindi-Minjila-Lamu and Lamu-Minjila-Garissa road. Lamu port is facing stiff competition in East and Horn of Africa with Somaliland and Tanzania revamping their facilities.

Teraco's JB3 data centre facility up and running in Ekurhuleni

JOHANNESBURG

TERACO Data Environments has completed construction of its JB3 data centre facility, located within the Isando Campus in Ekurhuleni, east of Johannesburg.

In a statement, the company says this multibillion-rand facility represents a strategic addition to Platform Teraco, offering enterprises a scalable platform for IT infrastructure deployment, while sustaining performance, reliability, security and wide network choice.

The completion of the JB3 data centre facility comes after Teraco, in November last year, announced it had started construction of a new hyperscale data centre (JB4), with 38-megawatts (MW) of critical power load, also located in Ekurhuleni.

JB4 is the latest expansion to Teraco's growing data centre platform and takes critical power load capacity at Teraco facilities to over 110MW, which includes the Isando Campus JB1/JB3 (39MW), Bredell JB2 (13MW), Rondebosch Cape Town CT1 (3MW), Brackenfell Cape Town CT2 (18MW) and Durban (1MW).

Teraco invested R4 billion over the two phases of construction of JB4, which is expected to be up and running in the first quarter of 2022. In May last year, the firm confirmed the construction of Teraco Cape Town 2, a new 30MW data centre facility. Construction on the site commenced in early March and will continue in line with local COVID-19 restrictions, with a targeted completion date of Q3 2021, the company said at the time.

The carrier- and cloud-neutral colocation data centre solutions provider notes that JB3 comprises 45 000sqm of building structure, 12 000sqm of data hall space, and 29MW of critical power load. When combined with the existing Isando Campus facilities, the critical power load totals 40MW across the campus data centre footprint, with room for further growth.

The completion of the JB3 data centre comes as SA is witnessing growth in the data centre space, as international companies like Microsoft and Amazon Web Services have also set up their own facilities in the country.

AUSTRALIA MINERAL SAND INVESTOR EXCITED BY PRESIDENT SAMIA'S FREE MARKET POLICY

By Property Watch Reporter

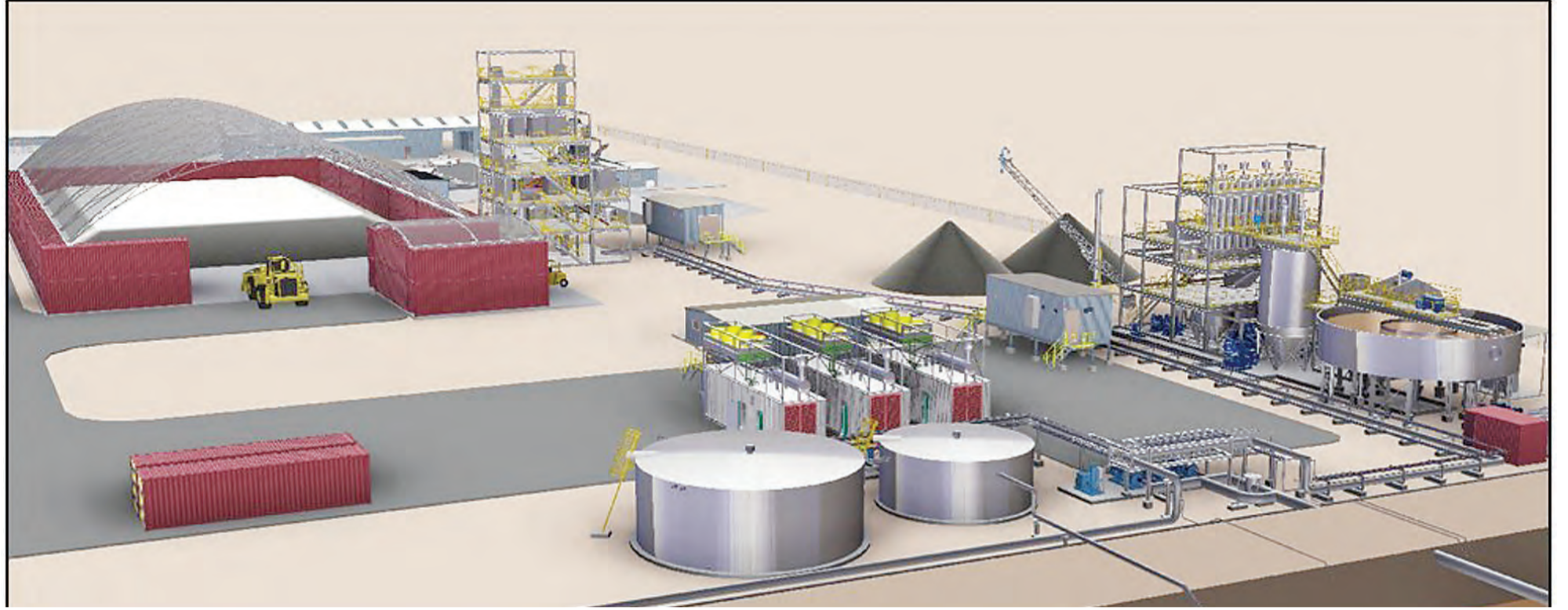
AN Australian company which is investing in mineral sand mining projects in Coast, Dar es Salaam and Tanga regions has expressed optimism that its project will move ahead thanks to President Samia Suluhu Hassan's promise to open up the country to foreign investors.

In its half year report, Strandline Resources Limited which is investing in Bagamoyo, Fungoni in Dar es Salaam and Tajiri in Tanga, said President Samia's coronation in March and her policy speech in April has revived investors' hopes and aspirations.

"This includes the recent approval by Tanzanian cabinet of ministers of long-awaited special mining licences (SML), which bodes well for progressing the current Tajiri project approval process," the report said adding that the Fungoni mining licence and environmental certificate have already been secured.

Strandline's half year report further added that in her speech on April 5, 2021, the president announced a plan to appoint a panel of experts to advise the government on a science-based approach to curb the spread of the coronavirus.

She also ordered her newly appointed Foreign Affairs minister to establish and promote relations with foreign countries while also asking



An illustration of Fungoni mineral sand mine.

for a review of regulations and taxes related to foreign investment while urging them to work hard to regain the trust of international investors.

"Through engagement with the Tanzanian Government, it is evident that the government and Strandline have a shared vision to achieve long-term prosperity for Tanzania and investors, by supporting development of the Tanzanian mining industry to achieve significant and sustained growth," the

report added.

During the quarter, the report revealed that Strandline continued to progress its strategy to unlock the immense value in its portfolio of mineral sands assets in the country, including the high-margin Fungoni project and the emerging Tajiri project.

"The company made positive and continued progress towards finalising a framework agreement with the Government of the Republic of Tanzania," the report stated

while adding that the agreement will pave the way for the company to advance its portfolio of high-quality mineral sands assets in the country.

Commenting on the report, Strandline Managing Director, Luke Graham said it was a game-changing three months for the company.

"Strandline has made the transition to an emerging mineral sands producer with a world-scale project in a tier-one jurisdic-

tion," Graham said.

"Our forecast revenue is fully-underwritten by binding sales contracts and we are perfectly placed to capitalise on increasing demand and falling supply of zircon and titanium minerals following years of under-investment in the sector," he noted while adding that construction is ramping up in line with the company's plan hence on track for production late next year.

Construction of Nyandungu Eco-Tourism Park complete

KIGALI

KIGALI residents and visitors will be glad to know that the construction of the Nyandungu Eco-Tourism Park has been completed and will soon be accessible to the public. The target for the launch was July 2021, but visitors will have to wait a little longer. According to the Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA), plans to launch the park are underway.

"The building of the park is finished. We are now planning an official launch," Juliet Kabera, the Director-General of REMA said. The exact date of the official launch or when the park will be accessible to the public is yet to be disclosed. The project was financed by Rwanda Green Fund (FONERWA) to a tune of Rwf 5.4 billion.

It was designed in 2015 and works started in 2016. The goal was for the works to be done in two phases with a completion date in 2020. However, according to REMA, there were delays because of redesigning the project and change of the contractor.



Main entrance to Nyandungu Eco-Tourism Park in Kigali.

Nevertheless, the construction is complete, and the public eagerly awaits access to enjoy the activities the park has to offer. Environmentalists too are happy with the project, saying that it will help conserve the

environment especially for a rapidly growing city like Kigali.

"The formation of an eco-park in Kigali was necessary due to the rapid development," Egide Nkuranga, an environmental-

ist, told The New Times. He added that in addition to educating people about conserving nature, the park would also be a welcome addition to the sustainable tourism offers that the City of Kigali presents.

"Ecotourism involves responsible travelling to natural areas, conserving the environment, and improving the wellbeing of the local people," Nkuranga said, pointing out that Kigali's adoption of ecotourism is more proof that the government's policy of environmental conservation is working.

"Most developed cities in the world have adopted ecotourism, this shows how our country has evolved both in the tourism sector and environmental conservation," he said. Once operational, the park is also expected to boost the incomes of people who live around the park.

Both the Rwanda Development Board, which oversees tourism, and the City of Kigali declined to comment on the park until it is officially launched. The Nyandungu Park is part of a growing list of recreational facilities in Kigali that are set to transform city life.

Once it opens, the public will enjoy the network of paths to walk and ride bicycles on, boardwalks and bridges in marshy areas, nature viewing areas, bird hides, trails, restaurants and picnic areas. The Park will also be connected to Wi-Fi and CCTV to ensure the security of visitors. And for REMA, in addition to Nyandungu, there are other wetlands in the city that will be restored.

"The wetlands restoration project will not stop on Nyandungu Park. We will further progress to other wetlands as well," said Kabera, REMA's Director-General. The contractors behind the project include Afrilandscapes Ltd Gasabo 3D Design Ltd (G3D), and ASTRIK International Ltd.

LNG a critical first step for developing SA's gas-to-power capacity

JOHANNESBURG

The introduction of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in South Africa will be a critical first step for the development of the gas-to-power capacity that is expected to complement the country's ambitious renewable-energy roll-out, General Electric's Commercial Growth Director for GE Gas Power, Sub-Saharan Africa, Michael Konadu, argues.

He notes that offshore supply to PetroSA has already fallen dramatically, while imports from the Pandemane fields in southern Mozambique are expected to taper during the current decade. In addition, while recent domestic offshore discoveries, such as Brulpadda and Luiperd, and onshore shale prospects appear promising, they are yet to be commercialised.

Likewise, sourcing of gas from the Rovuma basin, in northern Mozambique, remains challenging, owing not only to security concerns but also the absence of logistic infrastructure and the high capital cost of potentially building a 2 600-km gas pipeline to connect the reserves to markets in Gauteng, Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal.

"These challenges limit gas supply

to South Africa," Konadu says, adding that questions, therefore, continue to be asked about the source of gas needed to meet the Integrated Resource Plan's (IRP's) 3 000 MW allocation for gas power capacity by 2030.

In several other countries without adequate commercial gas reserves, LNG has become a fuel of choice and GE is convinced that LNG represents the quickest way to bring in the gas South Africa requires to meet the objectives outlined in both the IRP and the Gas Master Plan.

A further supportive factor is the fact that the LNG market has shifted in recent years from being a typical long-term seller's market to a buyer's market, where spot and interruptible contracts are increasingly traded.

"Global LNG trading is

projected to double by 2040, with 130-million tonnes per annum of re-gasification capacity under construction adding about 15% to global capacity when operational." GE is, therefore, convinced that the timing is right for South Africa to implement its gas-to-power programme to take advantage of the current favourable LNG market dynamics.

However, GE's Gas Power chief commercial officer for sub-Saharan Africa, Nosizwe Dlengezele, says that clarity on Transnet's role, Eskom's liquidity issues and the country's regulatory landscape still need to be addressed to fully open the way for both LNG importation and the implementation of the gas-to-power programme.

GE is of the view that import infrastructure development will be quicker to implement under an inte-

grated model rather than through one that decouples gas supply from the power programme. "A bundled approach allows the gas-to-power project consortium to manage project-on-project risk, including the LNG terminal and power plant infrastructure."

"The consortium also bears the liabilities for failure to dispatch power either because of gas supply operations or power plant operations, hence ensuring all requirements of lenders are met to facilitate project implementation," Dlengezele explains.

An integrated approach, with government taking an equity stake through Transnet and/or the Central Energy Fund, will deliver competitive LNG molecules, she avers. For evidence, GE points to the 1.5 GW Sergipe project, an integrated LNG-to-Power project in Brazil.

Mozambique's exports of gold and gems subject to certificate of origin as of Friday

MAPUTO

ALL exports of precious metals and gemstones mined in Mozambique will be subject to the issuance of a certificate of origin, with effect from today. The launch of the Certificate of Origin and Packaging regime was scheduled to take place in the city of Chimoio, Manica province yesterday.

Castro Elias, executive secretary of the Kimberley Process Management Unit at the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy, told 'Noticias' that the introduction of the certificate and packaging regime is in compliance with the regulation on the marketing of diamonds, precious metals and gemstones approved through Decree 25/2015 of 20 November. The introduction of the certificate seeks to conform transactions in these national products with international practices.

"The Certificate of Origin identifies the product as being from Mozambique, but it also assures buyers that the product was extracted taking into account all environmental requirements and human rights, and does not come from smuggling,

because it is the government that is issuing the document," Elias explained.

He said that, in the past, some national companies had had problems selling their mining products, especially in international markets where these documents are required, resorting to certificate holders from neighbouring countries to sell their products.

"It was like that because other countries already have specific certificates of origin for this group of minerals, like precious metals and gemstones."

That is why it was necessary to introduce this instrument, with the creation in Mozambique of the Kimberley Precious Metals and Gems Process Management Unit, whose function is to implement Decree 25/2015 of 20 November," the source explained.

He added that the launch of the Certificate of Origin and Packaging regime means that precious metals and gems must undergo evaluation by a technical team comprising multi-sector experts, who determine tax liability before sealing the product.

TECHNOLOGY

LONDON'S PRIME CENTRAL PROPERTY MARKET SET TO GROW BY 21.5PC OVER NEXT FIVE YEARS

LONDON

LONDON'S prime central property market is set to grow 21.5 per cent over the next five years, according to real estate consultant Savills, which upgraded its outlook for the sector to reflect pent-up demand from wealthy overseas buyers.

Savills said it's more positive forecast came on the back of the extended stamp duty holiday, as well as better availability of mortgage finance and the effect of repeated lockdowns on what affluent buyers want from their homes.

However, the sector is also expected to receive an uplift from overseas buyers after the government eased travel restrictions for international visitors from certain countries earlier this month, including the UAE, which was moved from the red list to the amber. Alex Christian, director, Savills Private Office, said the recovery of the prime London market was hit by the delayed easing of travel restrictions, but there are already "green shoots of recovery."

"Since quarantine restrictions were dropped for fully vaccinated travellers from Europe and the US earlier this month, we have already seen a flurry of activity from overseas clients, particularly from families who are keen to enter the prime London market before the new school term starts in September," Mr Christian said.

"Now that the requirement for hotel quarantine has also been dropped for residents of the UAE and Qatar, many of our contacts have also started to get in touch regarding plans to visit the UK later this month and into September, as they seek to take advantage of the historical value on offer in the Capital. This should have a relatively profound effect on the prime market in the coming months."

High quality, "turn-key" homes, and "lock up and leave" flats are in highest demand from prime overseas buyers, Mr Christian said, however, a lack of stock on the market continues to act as constraint. "As such, the opportunity to take advantage of lower prices - and strong forecasted growth - will not be around for long," he said.

The company expects prime housing market across the whole country to grow 9 per cent this year, up from an earlier forecast of 5 per cent, while the



One of UK's prime housing markets outside London.

five-year forecast has been boosted to 25.1 per cent from 20.5 per cent, led by London's suburbs, up 26 per cent, and the wider south, up 25.7 per cent, which have hugely benefited from buyers relocating from more central locations.

"Some sellers operating in the prime market have been relatively reluctant to bring their properties to the market over the past year, in part due to the concerns around the risks that Covid-19 presents, but also because of the lack of available properties for them to buy. With fewer properties available to meet demand, prices have increased more rapidly than previously predicted," said Frances Clacy, a research analyst at Savills.

"But, as lockdown restrictions have been lifted and the vaccine rollout continues at pace, more stock is likely to come to the market. As such, a readjustment in buyer and seller expectations will be crucial to maintain the current market momentum." Britain's property market surged 8.5 per cent last year after Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak unveiled a stamp duty holiday in July last year to bolster the market.

A desire for more space and a new life outside cities also inspired many to relocate as the work-from-home trend took off and people become frustrated by being stuck in smaller properties during a series of UK lockdowns.

The number of Londoners buying homes outside the UK capital soared to a record high in the first half of this year, according to a recent Hamptons report, as the pandemic encouraged residents to quit city life and buy elsewhere in Britain.

However, UK house price growth cooled in July to 7.6 per cent, growing at its slowest rate since March in a signal that the tapering of the stamp duty holiday is taking momentum out of a red-hot property market. While prime central London values have increased over the past year for the first time since late 2014, they only grew by a marginal 0.5 per cent.

However, prices are expected to escalate more significantly in the second half of this year, ending 2021 3 per cent up followed by a strong bounce of 8 per cent in 2022 due to the easing travel restrictions. Prime cen-

tral London flats market, in particular, have lagged as it tends to be more dominated by those from overseas and those seeking a pied-à-terre for use mid-week.

Meanwhile, outside of London, country houses and coastal locations in the £2m-plus category have seen substantial surges in demand but constrained supply and this has led to annual price growth of 12.9 per cent and 14.6 per cent respectively.

Looking ahead, Ms Clacy said values are set to continue rising but price growth will soften amid rising interest rates and higher taxes, particularly for overseas buyers. "Both may reduce buyers' spending power, which will limit price growth in the medium to long term," she said.

Brookfield buys 30acre land in Mumbai suburb for Rs 600 cr to build data centre

MUMBAI

IN one of the biggest land deals in the country in the last couple of years, Canada's Brookfield has bought a 30 acre land parcel in Navi Mumbai, a satellite town of Mumbai, for Rs 600 crore from K Raheja Corp, sources said. Brookfield plans to build a data centre on the plot.

K Raheja Corp, which bought the land parcel in the Ghansoli area of Navi Mumbai from US chemicals company Cabot Corporation in 2015 for Rs 210 crore, would be making three times the returns from the sale of the land parcel to Brookfield. According to real estate experts the price paid by Brookfield is in line with the market price.

Brookfield Infrastructure, part of Brookfield, recently formed a joint venture with NYSE listed Digital Realty for setting up and operating data centres in the country under the brand BAM Digital Realty. Brookfield did not comment on the story, neither did K Raheja Corp. The Brookfield JV is also looking to buy land parcels in the other parts of the country to set up data centres, sources said.

The JV would expand Brookfield Infrastructure's global data infrastructure portfolio, which includes \$23 billion in assets across data transmission, distribution and storage. It has 139,000 operational telecom wireless towers

in the country and intends to expand to 175,000 in the near term.

With the growing need for digital connectivity to work, learn and play leading to a sharp rise in data usage, the demand for data centres, too, has soared. Betting on this demand, several global operators such as Yondr, Digital Realty and EdgeConneX have set up joint ventures with Indian companies or Indian arms of global companies or fund managers.

Real estate demand for data centres is expected to jump by 15-18 million sq ft in the next four to five years, property consultant Savills said recently. It estimates that the data centres' demand in India between 2021 and 2025 will touch over 2,500 Megawatt (MW) with the adoption of 5G, internet of things (IoT), artificial intelligence (AI), and increased use of cloud services and in smart cities. Data Centres have been one of those real estate asset classes that are least affected by the Covid-19-related crisis across the globe including in India, said Savills.

"The Indian data centre market," it added, "is likely to exhibit a higher growth rate than the world average." Indian data centres witnessed a record absorption of 102 MW during 2020, as various organisations leaned on them to keep their businesses operational, JLL said.

Supertall floating 'Windcatchers' will make wind farms affordable

OSLO

A NEW, floating offshore wind turbine system using stacked, square grids nearly as tall as the Eiffel Tower is being developed by Norwegian firms Wind Catching Systems, contractor Aibel AS and holding company Ferd.

The grids will be 1,000 ft tall, reports Asia Times, some three times the height of a typical turbine and nearly matching the Eiffel Tower's 1,063 feet. Wind Catching Systems says its 'Windcatchers' will cut land use by 80% and can be produced at cheap fixed prices.

The company says the system will make floating offshore wind farms financially competitive before 2023, at least a decade earlier than traditional floating offshore wind farms. It plans a pilot project consisting of several 1 MW turbines using an Integrated "mother vessel" substation connecting all units.

Eventually, each Windcatcher will be able to produce enough electricity for 80,000 homes, with five units creating the equivalent of 25 conventional turbines, the company says. Windcatchers are claimed to be able to generate two and a half times more electricity than a conventional turbine because their height exposes their rotors to higher wind speeds.

In addition, rotor blades are pitched, allowing for an energy output higher than a conventional turbine, Wind Catching Systems says. Ole Heggheim, the company's chief executive, said: "Our goal is to enable offshore wind operators and developers to produce electricity at a cost that competes with other energy sources, without subsidies. Simply put, we will deliver floating offshore wind at the costs of bottom-fixed technology solutions, which provides great opportunities on a global basis for the Norwegian supplier industry."

Erik Bjørstad, Ferd investment director, said: "The goal is to complete the technical testing and verification during 2021 and to offer commercial development solutions in 2022. Wind Catching has significant competitive benefits compared to conventional floating offshore wind technologies and we see great opportunities for the Norwegian supplier and export industry."



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DP World's first-half profit jumps 52pc on higher revenue as global trade rebounds

ABU DHABI

DP World, one of the largest port operators, said its first half-year profit jumped about 52 per cent on the back of higher revenue as global trade rebounded from the coronavirus pandemic.

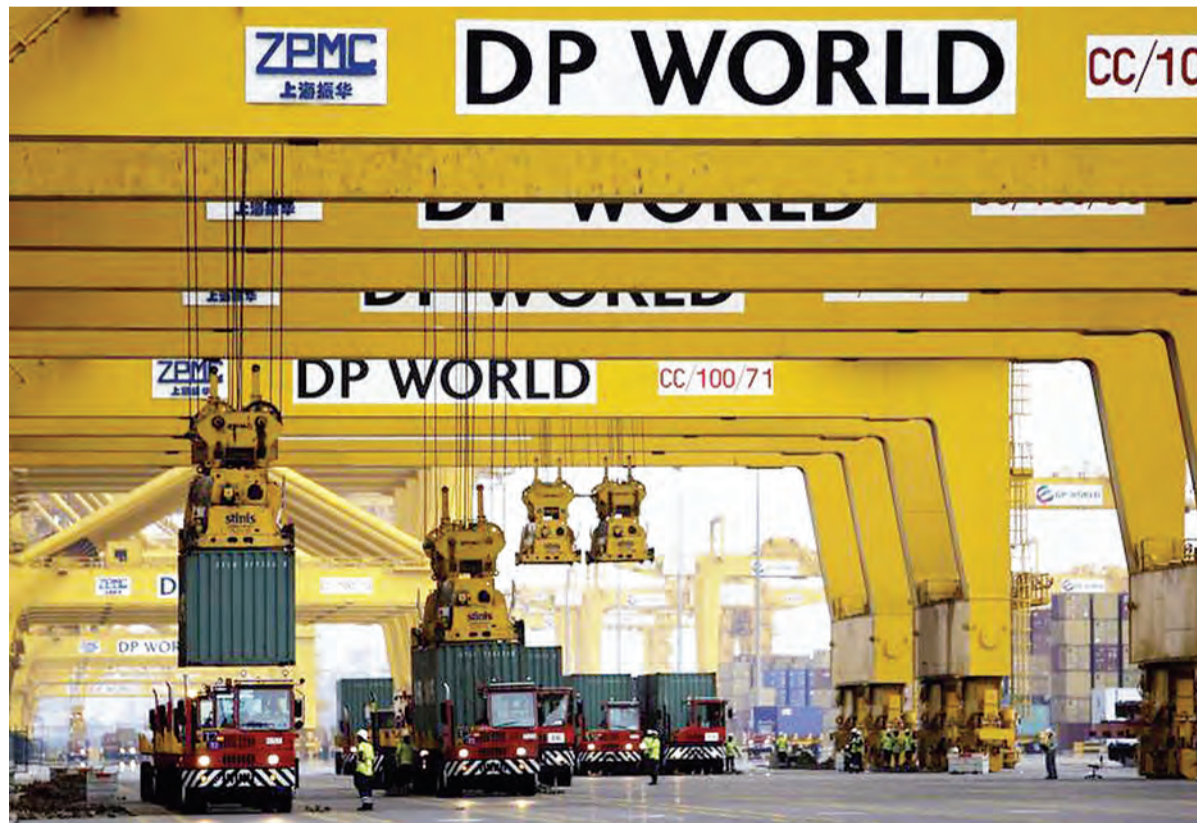
Total profit attributable to owners of the company for the six-month period to the end of June rose to \$475 million, the company said on Thursday. Revenue climbed 21.3 per cent year-on-year to \$4.94 billion.

"This significant growth once again demonstrates that we are in the right locations and a focus on the origin and destination cargo will continue to deliver the right balance between growth and resilience," DP World Group chairman and chief executive Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem said.

"In recent years we have seen cargo owners respond positively to our integrated end-to-end product offering and we aim to continue with our drive to enable trade. Our recently announced acquisitions of Imperial Logistics and syncreon bring value-add capabilities in high growth verticals and markets, which will allow us to offer a more compelling set of supply chain solutions."

Global trade is expected to improve on the back of a rebound fuelled by pent-up demand for consumer durables from advanced economies, such as cars, and the resumption of supply chains in emerging markets.

While the International Monetary Fund issued a warning last



A port operated by DP World in the UAE.

month that vaccine inequality could affect the global economic recovery, it raised its trade growth estimate to 9.7 per cent this year and 7 per cent in 2022, after a contraction of 8.3 per cent in 2020.

In July, DP World acquired US logistics firm Syncreon for a total enterprise value of \$1.2bn. The company also plans to buy South Africa's Imperial Logistics for \$890m. The deal is expected to close by the first quarter of 2022.

"Overall, the near-term out-

look remains positive, and while we are mindful that the Covid-19 pandemic and geopolitical uncertainty could once-again disrupt the global economic recovery, we remain positive on the medium to long-term fundamentals of the industry and DP World's ability to continue to deliver sustainable returns," Mr Bin Sulayem, said.

Total revenue from the Middle East, Europe and Africa rose 7.5 per cent to \$3.15bn during the period, while it grew 121 per cent in

the Asia Pacific and India region to \$789m. Revenue from Australia and Americas climbed 27.6 per cent to \$998m.

Consolidated capital expenditure in the first half of 2021 was \$687m, with maintenance capital expenditure of \$143m. The company expects the full-year 2021 capital expenditure to be about \$1.2bn, which will be invested in different countries including the UAE, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Angola, among others.



WORLD

'Afghanistan's fate means West now seen as weak'

WASHINGTON / LONDON / BRUSSELS

THE fate of Afghanistan after a 20-year war led by the United States means that the West's resolve is now perceived as weak by major adversaries, British Defense Secretary Ben Wallace said yesterday.

The war in Afghanistan has cost several hundred thousand lives and trillions of dollars but the Taliban are now back in power, and the West's leading powers are scrambling to evacuate their diplomats and Afghan staff from Kabul airport.

"What I'm uncomfortable with is that we have a world order now, where resolve is perceived by our adversaries as weak, the West's resolve," Wallace told BBC TV.

"That is something we should all worry about: if the West is seen not to have resolve and it fractures, then our adversaries find that encouraging," Wallace told LBC radio.

Yesterday, the European Union's foreign policy chief branded developments in Afghanistan "a catastrophe and a nightmare", and said there had been a failure of intelligence to anticipate the Taliban's return to power there.

Josep Borrell told the European Parliament that a first group of 106 members of the EU staff in Afghanistan had been airlifted from the country and had arrived in Madrid, Spain.

President Joe Biden said on Wednesday that US troops may stay in Afghanistan past an Aug 31 deadline to evacuate Americans, while the

Pentagon said the US military does not currently have the ability to reach people beyond the Kabul airport.

"If there's American citizens left, we're going to stay until we get them all out," Biden told ABC News in an interview conducted on a day many US lawmakers pressed him to extend the deadline that he had set for a final pullout.

Biden has come under fierce criticism for his handling of the withdrawal, which in recent days has been dominated by scenes of chaos in and around the Kabul airport with people desperately trying to get out of the country.

Biden defended his decisions, saying problems were inevitable in ending the 20-year US involvement there.

"The idea that somehow, there's a way to have gotten out without chaos ensuing, I don't know how that happens," he said.

He also said the Taliban is cooperating for now in helping get Americans out of the country but "we're having some more difficulty" in evacuating US-aligned Afghan citizens.

The speed with which Taliban forces retook Afghanistan, as US and other foreign forces withdrew, has led to chaotic scenes at the airport with diplomats, foreign citizens and Afghans trying to flee but they are being impeded by crowds and Taliban checkpoints.

"We're going to do everything we can to continue to try and deconflict and create passageways for them to get to the airfield. I



Britain's Defense Secretary Ben Wallace

don't have the capability to go out and extend operations currently into Kabul," US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin told reporters at the Pentagon.

A top US diplomat separately said on Wednesday the United States expects the Taliban to allow Afghans who wish to leave Afghanistan to depart safely.

Reuters reported on Tuesday increasing concern from officials about how many at-risk Afghans could be evacuated.

US troops guarding the evacuation effort fired some shots in the air overnight to control crowds, but there were no indications of casualties or injuries, the Pentagon said earlier on Wednesday.

Austin said there are about 4,500 US military personnel in Kabul and there "have been no hostile interactions with the Taliban, and our lines of communication with Taliban commanders remain open."

Speaking to reporters alongside Austin, General Mark Milley, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said there had been no intelligence to indicate that the

Afghanistan security forces and government would collapse in 11 days, as they did.

Milley said intelligence had "clearly indicated, multiple scenarios were possible," including a Taliban takeover following a rapid collapse of Afghan security forces and the government, a civil war or a negotiated settlement.

"The timeframe of rapid collapse - that was widely estimated and ranged from weeks to months and even years following our departure," Milley said.

The two top Republicans in the US Congress, Kevin McCarthy of the House of Representatives and Mitch McConnell of the Senate, requested a classified briefing for the "gang of eight" - the top eight relevant lawmakers - for a status report on the evacuation.

"It is of the utmost importance that the US government account for all US citizens in Afghanistan and provide the necessary information and means of departure to all those Americans who desire to leave the country," they wrote in a letter to Biden.

Agencies

Former Malaysia deputy PM poised to win premiership race

KUALA LUMPUR

FORMER Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob looked set to form the next government after gaining a parliamentary majority from the same coalition that collapsed earlier this week, media and lawmakers said yesterday.



Muhyiddin Yassin resigned as prime minister on Monday after conceding he had lost support from his alliance, bringing to an end a fraught 17 months in office and throwing the country into further political chaos amidst a COVID-19 surge and economic slump.

If confirmed, Ismail Sabri's appointment would mark the return of the United Malays National Organization (UMNO) party to leadership, three years after its defeat in a general election because of widespread corruption allegations, especially around the multi-billion dollar scandal at investment fund 1Malaysia Development Berhad (IMDB).

UMNO, which governed the country for over 60 years before that, was part of Muhyiddin's coalition but balked at playing second fiddle. Two governments that came after the polls proved to be fragile and short lived.

Ismail Sabri secured majority support with 114 lawmakers out of the 222-seat parliament backing him, The Star and other media reported.

King Al-Sultan Abdullah, the constitutional monarch, wants any new prime minister to face a parliamentary confidence vote to demonstrate that they have a majority of support.

Lawmakers supporting Ismail Sabri were asked to meet the king yesterday to verify their support, UMNO lawmaker Ahmad Maslan said on Twitter yesterday.

They include lawmakers from the same political parties that were in Muhyiddin's coalition, he said.

The opposition bloc, which largely backed Anwar Ibrahim, has not been invited to the palace, opposition lawmaker Ong Kian Ming said on Twitter.

The king is scheduled to meet with the country's other senior royals on Friday. A decision on the new prime minister is likely to be announced after that.

Agencies

China holds celebration of 70th anniversary of Tibet's peaceful liberation

LHASA

CHINA yesterday held a grand gathering to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the peaceful liberation of Tibet.

The event was held in Lhasa, capital of the Tibet Autonomous Region. The national flag of the People's Republic of China was raised at the beginning of the celebration.

People sang the national anthem. A congratulatory message from the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, the State Council, the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and the Central Military Commission was read. Wang Yang, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, attended the gathering and presented congratulatory plaques and banners. Wang also addressed the event.

Wang, who is leading a central delegation to Tibet, said the delegation is entrusted by the CPC Central Committee and Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, to jointly celebrate the 70th anniversary of Tibet's peaceful liberation with people of all ethnic groups in Tibet.

Wang called the peaceful liberation of Tibet in 1951 "a major victory in the cause of liberation of the Chinese people and China's reunification," saying it marked a historic transition with epoch-making significance for Tibet.

Since then, Tibet has embarked on a path from darkness to brightness, from backwardness to progress, from poverty to prosperity, from autocracy to democracy, and from closeness to openness," Wang said. "A thriving socialist new Tibet is standing tall and firm at the rooftop of the world."

Xinhua



The meeting to mark the 70th anniversary of the peaceful liberation of Tibet in Lhasa, capital city of Southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, yesterday morning

People-to-people ties key to US-China relations - Chinese envoy

WASHINGTON

CHINESE Ambassador to the United States Qin Gang on Wednesday said that people-to-people relations are essential to the development of US-China ties.

Qin made the remarks during a virtual meeting with old friends of the midwestern state of Iowa Sarah Lande, former executive director of Iowa Sister States, and Kenneth Quinn, former US ambassador to Cambodia, according to a press release posted on the website of the Chinese embassy.

He expressed high appreciation



Chinese Ambassador to the United States Qin Gang makes remarks to Chinese and US media upon arrival in the United States on July 28, 2021. File photo

and respect to them for their long-term commitment to promoting friendly exchanges and sub-national cooperation between China and the United States.

People-to-people relations underpin state-to-state relations and it is hoped that the two peoples will strengthen friendly exchanges, bridge misunderstanding with friendship and replace suspicion with trust, Qin stressed.

The ambassador also expressed his wishes to see more fruitful cooperation between China and Iowa.

Extending welcome to Qin

for assuming office, Lande and Quinn said that the US-China friendship has a profound foundation, and they greatly cherish their sincere friendship with President Xi Jinping and Professor Peng Liyuan.

They believed that the stable development of US-China relations meets the common expectation of the two peoples, and that the two countries should strengthen cooperation.

Lande and Quinn also pledged to continue to make positive efforts for US-China friendship.

Xinhua

Erdogan: Turkey, UAE making progress after rare meeting

ISTANBUL

REGIONAL rivals Turkey and the United Arab Emirates have made progress in relations which could lead to significant UAE investment in Turkey, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Wednesday after a rare meeting with a senior UAE official.

The talks marked the latest move by Ankara to ease tensions with several Arab powers over the conflict in Libya, internal Gulf disputes and rival claims to Eastern Mediterranean waters.

Erdogan (pictured) held talks in Ankara on Wednesday with UAE National Security Adviser Sheikh Tahnoun bin Zayed Al Nahyan which also focused on economic cooperation.

"In this meeting we discussed what type of investment could

be made in which areas," Erdogan said in a television interview.

The two countries, which backed rival sides in Libya's conflict, have been bitter rivals for regional influence.

Turkey last year accused the United Arab Emirates of bringing chaos to the Middle East through its interventions in Libya and Yemen, while the UAE and several other countries criticised Turkey's military actions.

"For several months ... beginning with our intelligence unit, by holding some talks with the administration of Abu Dhabi, we have arrived at a certain point," Erdogan said.

He said he hoped to talk with Abu Dhabi's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nahyan, de facto leader of the United Arab Emirates, and hoped for



closer economic ties.

"They have a very serious investment target, an investment plan," Erdogan said, adding that the heads of Turkey's Wealth Fund and investment support agency would pursue the talks.

"If they continue in a good way with their counterparts, I believe the United Arab Emirates will make serious investments in our country in a very short time," he said.

Wednesday's meeting came

after similar overtures this year by Ankara towards Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The overtures were aimed at overcoming tensions that have impacted Turkey's economy, which has been struggling with high inflation, a weak lira and limited foreign investment.

Already-strained relations with Saudi Arabia collapsed after the killing by Saudi agents of journalist Jamal Khashoggi in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul - a killing that Erdogan said had been ordered at the highest level in Riyadh.

Turkey's ties with Cairo have been poor since the military overthrew Egypt's first democratically elected president, Mohamed Mursi of the Muslim Brotherhood, following protests against his rule.

Xinhua

'Digital village' makes agriculture smarter in east China's Zhejiang

AS digital technologies have been applied in the production and people's daily life in rural areas of east China's Zhejiang province, local farmers are able to keep track of the soil moisture status and fertilizer concentration via their mobile phones, trace the whole process of agricultural production by scanning QR codes, and participate in social governance through intelligent systems.

At the beginning of this year, the provincial government of Zhejiang issued a plan for the construction of "digital villages", providing a blueprint for digital governance in rural areas.

Tao Kaiquan, an experienced

farmer born in the 1960s in Huangyan district, Taizhou city of Zhejiang, often checks on his mobile phone the condition of his citrus greenhouses.

According to Tao, also general manager of an ecological agriculture company, he has downloaded to his mobile phone an app that is connected to 20 sensors in his citrus greenhouses. By showing in real time the temperature, humidity, light, and other indicators reflecting the environmental conditions of the greenhouses, the app allows him to realize efficient production management.

After the app gave a warning

that the soil moisture content fell below 50 percent, Tao immediately informed a worker in his greenhouse, who then turned on a switch and set in motion nearly 100 irrigation drippers hanging in the greenhouses.

"We rely on data in farming, not experience anymore," Tao said, who recalled that farmers like him had to judge according to experience how much fertilizer and water to add and how to adjust the temperature, humidity and light appropriately.

Farm work has become a lot easier with the intelligent water and fertilizer integrated drip ir-

rigation system, sensors, and mobile app, noted Tao, who has been quite familiar with the terms of digital agriculture. The drippers, which are fixed 40 centimeters away from each other, can transport the same amount of precisely proportioned fertilizer solution directly to the roots of citrus trees, he said.

The government has provided subsidies to encourage leading agricultural companies to embrace digital and intelligent transformation. The effort has helped standardize agricultural production and make his citrus fruits warmly received in the market

and more profitable, according to Tao. After harvesting wild rice shoots, Jiang Liangzhen, manager of a wild rice shoot cooperative in Guan'ao village, Beiyang township, Huangyan district, quickly input information about the harvest into an app on her mobile phone.

According to Jiang, she has recorded all the watering, ploughing, fertilization and other agricultural activities during the growth of wild rice shoots, from sowing to harvesting, through the app.

As Jiang inputting figures into her mobile phone, workers of

the cooperative packaged up wild rice shoots, stuck a QR code on each package box, and loaded the boxes onto trucks.

"The QR code is like the ID card of our wild rice shoots as well as their pass to the market," Jiang said, explaining that by scanning the QR code, people can get information about the planting environment, harvest date, and quality testing report, and other information about the wild rice shoots.

Safety of farm produce was the first area Huangyan district included into digital regulation by enabling real-time data updat-

ing for tracing the whole process of production.

The district has built a database for practitioners in agricultural production and operation, requiring agricultural producers above designated size to label the packages of their products with quality certificates, said an official with the agriculture and rural affairs bureau of Huangyan district.

As more and more practitioners like Jiang use the app, they can record information about crops on their mobile phones in time and the app will automatically integrate data and images uploaded by them.

People's Daily

Trading persons for prosperity -- America's 'legacy of sleaze' lives on

BEIJING

THE U.S. State Department recently released its annual "Trafficking in Persons Report," dividing countries worldwide into tiers based on how well America thinks they have tackled the crime.

Replete with double standards, the report blasts the human rights records of other countries while downplaying the atrocities of modern slavery at home.

But the facts speak for themselves. The United States has long traded persons for its prosperity. The country is a self-proclaimed "human rights defender" with a shameful "legacy of sleaze" that lives on today.

DARK NATIONAL HERITAGE

The institution of slavery is widely seen as a fundamental part of America's prosperity. From southern inland tobacco plantations to shipbuilding plants in coastal New England, U.S. industries supported slavery and were nurtured by it for centuries.

"Out of slavery ... grew nearly everything that has truly made America exceptional: its economic might, its industrial power ... its astonishing penchant for violence," commented The New York Times Magazine in 2019 in an issue marking the first enslaved Africans arriving in the British colony of Virginia in 1619.

It's estimated that from 1525 to 1866, more than 12.5 million Africans were shipped to the New World, with the Thirteen British Colonies, later the nascent United States, being a key market, accord-

ing to Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database.

Numerous people died during the brutal maritime transport, while about 10.7 million having survived and landed in the Americas, only to be sold into slavery.

Though the United States banned the importation of slaves in 1808, growing demand for slave labor in the cotton industry had fueled the domestic slave trade. Meanwhile, the cross-Atlantic trade went on covertly.

"The system proved itself so lucrative that law and legal precedent began to leave future governments leeway for prioritizing the economy over morality," according to the website of James Madison Montpelier, a national historical landmark.

By 1850, 80 percent of American exports were the product of slave labor. A decade later, "the nearly 4 million American slaves were worth some 3.5 billion U.S. dollars, making them the largest single financial asset in the entire U.S. economy," David Blight, a historian at Yale University, was quoted as saying by The Atlantic.

The American Civil War brought legal slavery to an end in 1865, but the country still had to confront the widespread presence of similar practices.

As Jim Crow laws -- local statutes of racial segregation -- were enacted in the southern states, racial repression and exploitation stretched into the 20th century, reducing the entire black population to decades of second-class citizenship.

"All men are created equal,"



and personal accounts attest that the United States has long been -- to put it in the U.S. State Department's own words -- "a source, transit, and destination country" of adult and minor victims, both at home and abroad.

An estimated 403,000 people in the United States were kept for modern slavery in 2016, either in forced labor or sex trafficking, according to the Global Slavery Index published in 2018 by Australia's Walk Free Foundation.

According to nonprofit organization Polaris, the U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline handled more than 5,700 cases in 2015. Four years later, that number doubled to 11,500.

Such cases have been reported in restaurants, cleaning services,

construction and factories, many of which appear to be legal businesses. In 2019, federal prosecutors sued 12 hotel groups, including Hilton Worldwide Holdings and Intercontinental Hotels & Resorts, claiming that they knowingly ignored signs of women being sold as sex slaves. Some even reported profiting from sex trafficking.

Nonprofit organization DeliverFund reported last year that there are 15,000 to 50,000 women and children coerced into commercial sex annually in the United States.

"The United States is the number one consumer of sex worldwide. So we are driving the demand as a society," Geoff Rogers, co-founder of the United States Institute Against Human Trafficking, told Fox News.

Xinhua

China willing to advance high-quality Belt and Road cooperation with Arab states - Xi

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory letter to the fifth China-Arab States Expo that opened yesterday in northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, saying China is willing to jointly promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation with Arab states.

Noting the traditional friendship between the peoples of China and Arab states has become stronger over time, Xi said in the letter that China and Arab states have in recent years continued to strengthen strategic coordination and synergy of actions, and the joint construction of the Belt and Road has achieved fruitful results.

China remains the largest trading partner of Arab countries. In the face of COVID-19, China and Arab countries have joined hands to fight the pandemic, setting an example of helping each other and overcoming difficulties together, Xi said.

He said China is ready to work with Arab states to seek cooperation and development, promote peaceful development, achieve mutual benefit and win-win results, jointly build the Belt and Road with high quality, elevate China-Arab strategic partnership to a higher level, and jointly build a China-Arab community with a shared future for the new era.

Xinhua

Ecological efforts return green to Tibet

TIBET is now one of the best places in the world ecology-wise, thanks to the long-term efforts of the Chinese government to improve the autonomous region's capability of ecological and environmental governance, and advance biodiversity protection on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau.

With a firm determination to prioritize ecological conservation and boost green development, China is practically protecting the ecology of the "third pole" of the world.

"Drastic changes are taking place every day." That's how Padma Chog, 54, described the ever-changing environment in Tibet autonomous region. The Tibetan woman, who's a ranger in Yani National Wetland Park in Nyingchi, Tibet, tracks trails of wild animals and growth of vegetation every day, together with 69 colleagues.

The Yarlung Zangbo River, the longest river in Tibet, converges with the Nyang River, its second largest tributary, in the wetland park, which was established in 2016.

At one time, sands were always exposed on the bed of the Yarlung Zangbo River after rainy season ended, and went up in the air with the wind. Besides, frequent sand excavation exacerbated the deterioration of environment.

"After the wetland park was set up in 2016, the humming of sand excavators disappeared," said Tsering Drolma, head of the management bureau of the Yani National Wetland Park.

Ecological conservation calls for institutional protection. So far, Tibet autonomous region has unveiled and enacted over



Photo taken on June 18, 2021 shows Qangkyim village, Lhayu township, Qonggyai county, Lhoka, southwest China's Tibet autonomous region. File photo

60 regulations and provisions. In January this year, the National People's Congress of the autonomous region adopted Tibet's first comprehensive regulation on ecological progress.

Tibet banned visits to the core zone of the Mount Qomolangma National Nature Reserve by tourists without climbing permits, prohibited illegal crossing in the Chang Tang National Nature Reserve, and suspended tourism services relevant to the Purog Kangri glacier. These efforts were made to ensure valuable resources for future generations.

By 2020, Tibet had invested 81.4 billion yuan (about \$12.7 billion) in ecological and environmental protection. Today, nature reserves cover 38.75 percent of the autonomous region's land area, and an area of 608,000 square kilometers has been put under a red-line protection initiative for conserving ecology. Over half of the autonomous region is protected according to the strictest standards.

Besides, the comprehensive vegetation coverage of natural grassland grew to 47 percent, and the wetland area totaled 6.53 million hectares. Biodiversity is well protected and the water quality of major rivers and lakes maintained at a great level. The autonomous region enjoyed good air quality on 99.4 percent of days in the past year.

Tibet's Ngari, nicknamed the "top of the roof of the world," is known for its low oxygen content, coldness, aridity, and scarce vegetation. That's why trees are very much cherished by local people.

Six or seven centimeters under a piece of grassland in Ngari, there is tundra. Afforestation is of huge difficulty there, as trees are not able to survive without cold-resistance, wind-resistance and ultraviolet ray-resistant measures.

A few years ago, a key canal irrigation project near the Gar River made a detour at the sacrifice of extended construction period and increased cost, just to steer clear of a century-old

wood comprising over 1,500 rose willows.

In 2016, encouraged by the Ministry of Science and Technology and the government of Tibet autonomous region, multiple scientific research institutes and enterprises started putting their hands to high-altitude afforestation in Nagqu, which is adjacent to Ngari.

Twenty-nine patents have been applied over the past years, covering breeding, soil fertility enhancement, innovative management plans, wind-break, geomembrane, and sunshade net.

Today, over 300,000 trees have been planted under an afforestation base in the city, three quarters of which survived the winter.

According to the bureau of forestry and grassland of Tibet, the autonomous region planted nearly six million mu (400,000 hectares) of trees in the 13th Five-Year Plan period, or the past five years, increasing forest coverage to 12.31 percent. A total of 269,000 mu of forests has been planted in the basins of the Yarlung Tsangpo, Nujiang, Lhasa, Nyangchu, Yalong, and Shiquan rivers.

During the 13th Five-Year Plan period, the rate of urban sewage disposal grew from 50.19 percent to 96.28 percent in the autonomous region, and 97.34 percent of domestic waste in cities above county level were disposed hazard-free. A series of measures, including toilet revolution and environmental treatment, are boosting rural construction and vitalization.

People's Daily

PM Henry says quake left Haiti 'on its knees'



A man stands close to the rubble of a collapsed building in Jeremie, Haiti, Aug 18, 2021, four days after the city was struck by a 7.2-magnitude earthquake. AP

LES CAYES

AN earthquake that killed more than 2,000 people in Haiti had left the Caribbean nation "on its knees", Prime Minister Ariel Henry said on Wednesday, as survivors showed increasing frustration about the sluggish arrival of relief to hard-hit areas.

Henry had on Sunday flown to Les Cayes, the southwestern city of 100,000 people which bore the brunt of Saturday's magnitude 7.2 quake, and pledged a rapid increase in aid. But in a video address on Wednesday evening, he conceded Haiti was in trouble.

"Haiti is now on its knees," Henry said. "The earthquake that devastated a large part of the south of the country proves once again our limits, and how fragile we are."

Dozens of people went to Les Cayes airport demanding food after a helicopter

arrived carrying supplies, a Reuters witness said. Police intervened to allow a truck carrying aid to leave.

Tremors shook buildings late on Wednesday in Les Cayes, a Reuters witness said, but there were no immediate reports of further deaths or damage in the region.

Following another night of rains, residents in Les Cayes, including those camped in a mushrooming tent city in the city center, complained of scant assistance.

Haitian authorities said late on Wednesday that the official death toll had risen to 2,189.

Concern was also growing for more remote places outside Les Cayes such as Jeremie to the northwest, where access roads were damaged, videos on social media showed.

Pierre Ceneel, a judge in Les Cayes, rebuked the government in Port-au-Prince.

"As a judge, I must not have a political opinion. But as a man, as a man concerned about the situation of my country, nothing is working. They didn't do anything to prepare for this disaster," Ceneel said.

The poorest country in the Americas, Haiti is still recovering from a 2010 quake that killed over 200,000. The latest calamity hit just weeks after President Jovenel Moise was assassinated on July 7, plunging Haiti into political turmoil.

Jerry Chandler, head of Haiti's civil protection agency, told a news conference he knew aid had yet to reach many areas but officials were working hard to deliver it.

"The frustration and despair of the population is understood, but ... the population is asked not to block the convoys so that civil protection can do its job," he said.

Agencies

Japan warns of 'serious' impact after S. Korea forced labour ruling

TOKYO

JAPAN warned yesterday of "serious" ramifications if a South Korean court ruling to seize assets of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries as compensation over colonial-era forced labour is enforced.

The families of four Koreans who were forced to work for Mitsubishi Heavy during the 1910-45 Japanese colonial rule filed suit this month to seize some 853 million won (US\$725,000) owed by a South Korean firm to the Japanese company.

South Korea's Supreme Court in

2018 ordered Mitsubishi Heavy to compensate the victims, but the company has not done so amid a diplomatic feud between the two countries, with Japan arguing that the matter was settled under a 1965 treaty.

Seoul and Tokyo have long been at odds over restitution for Koreans forced to work in Japanese firms and military brothels during the colonization. Relations have soured to their lowest ebbs

in decades, as the row over forced labour spilled into a trade dispute and rekindled history and territorial spats.

The Suwon District Court late on Wednesday approved the seizure, banning the Korean company from paying the money to Mitsubishi Heavy and allowing the victims to collect it.

The verdict drew a strong rebuke from Japan, with the top government spokesman calling for Seoul to act to re-

solve the dispute.

"If it's liquidated, that would push Japan-South Korea relations into a serious situation. It must be avoided," Chief Cabinet Secretary Katsunobu Kato told reporters. "We want to urge South Korea even more strongly to present a solution that is acceptable to Japan." South Korea's foreign ministry said it has been in talks with Japan to find a "reasonable solution" while

considering how the victims can exercise their legal rights, as well as diplomatic relations.

A Mitsubishi Heavy spokesperson declined to comment, saying the company was trying to confirm details on the ruling.

Lawyers for the victims said if the Japanese company continues refusing to implement the order, they would directly collect the funds from the Korean com-

pany, LS Mtron Ltd.

"The victims and their families demand Mitsubishi make compensation in line with the ruling, acknowledge historical facts and provide an apology," the lawyers said in a statement, adding their clients are "open to consultations on this." An official at LS Mtron, a machinery subsidiary of LS Corp, told Reuters it shares the pain suffered by the victims and will fol-

low the court decision but needs to verify details.

Last month, President Moon Jae-in scrapped a plan to visit Tokyo for the Olympics and hold his first summit with Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga amid controversy over remarks by a Seoul-based Japanese diplomat.

Moon, marking the anniversary of his country's independence from Japan on Sunday, said his government remained open to dialogue with Japan to resolve problems.

Agencies

SPORT

Shime: COSAFA Women's Championship timely preps for Twiga Stars

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

TANZANIA'S senior national women's soccer team 'Twiga Stars' head coach, Bakari Shime, has said he believes his side's first match of this season's COSAFA Women's Championship against Zimbabwe, to be played on September 16, is a good start to his side's pursuit of success in the 2022 Africa Women's Cup of Nations (AWCON) qualifiers.

The COSAFA Women's Championship will be held in Nelson Mandela Bay, South Africa, from September 15-26.

Tanzania's Twiga Stars is scheduled to compete in Group B along with Zimbabwe, Botswana, and South Sudan.

Shime believes the tournament will be Twiga Stars' good preparation for the AWCON assignments.

"I believe it will be a competitive game because we beat them in the last tournament, so they will need to take revenge whilst we will want to continue tormenting them," Shime revealed.

Shime said winning the first game will boost Twiga Stars' confidence in the next games.

The Tanzania team will, on September 19, play Botswana, which defeated Tanzania in the previous tournament, and the final group game will have Twiga Stars play South Sudan on September 21.

In the previous COSAFA Women's Championship, Twiga Stars were knocked out of the group stage.

National U-17 women team lifted COSAFA U-17 Women's tournament by beating Zambia, so this time the Zambians have a chance to take revenge.

Tanzania, South Sudan, and Uganda are the three teams from the Council of East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA) that will take part in the COSAFA Women's Championship.

The tournament will feature 12 teams, including defending champions, South Africa's Banyana Banyana, and Zambia, who have just taken part in the Olympics.

Group A is made up of South Africa, Angola, Malawi, and Mozambique, Group B consists of Botswana, Tanzania, South Sudan, and Zimbabwe and Group C includes Zambia, Namibia, Eswatini, and Uganda.

There have been eight previous COSAFA Women's Championships since the first was played in 2002, each providing excitement and showcasing the quality of the talent in the Southern African region.

Ahead of the ninth installment to be staged in South Africa's Nelson Mandela Bay next month, we review the history of the competition over the last 19 years.

2002 COSAFA Women's Championship

The inaugural COSAFA Women's Championship was staged in Zimbabwe from April 19-28, 2002, and was to feature nine teams before Mauritius withdrew.

South Africa and hosts Zimbabwe were always going to be the favourites and it was they who met in the final. But before then, both stormed through their pools to make the semi-finals.

Zimbabwe topped Group A as they claimed a record 15-0 victory over Lesotho, to go with wins against Zambia (4-0) and Malawi (6-0). The Zambians managed to fill the runners-up spot.

South Africa was even more emphatic in the team's pool stage campaign as they claimed victories over Botswana (14-0), a game in which Veronica Phewe scored eight goals, Mozambique (13-0), and Swaziland (4-0). Mozambique picked up the runners-up position in Group B.

Zimbabwe made short work of Mozambique in their semi-final with an 11-1 victory, while South Africa had it much tougher with a 3-1 success against Zambia in the other semi.

That set up a final at the Rufaro Stadium that was won 2-1 by South Africa thanks to goals from Phewe and



A section senior national women's soccer team Twiga Stars' footballers attend training in Dar es Salaam recently ahead of COSAFA Women's Championship, which has been scheduled for next month in South Africa's Nelson Mandela Bay. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

Portia Modise.

Zambia took the bronze medal when Julia Siame scored the only goal as they beat Mozambique 1-0 in the third-place play-off.

2006 COSAFA Women's Championship

South African retained their title at the second COSAFA Women's Championship, which this time was played in Zambia.

Again, there were originally nine entrants, but when Mozambique withdrew the field was cut to eight, though it was still played with three groups.

Zambia and Namibia qualified for the semi-finals from Group A as they both managed four points. They opened their campaign with a 2-2 draw against one another before Zambia beat Swaziland 7-0 and Namibia managed a 6-0 win against the Swazis.

In Group B, South Africa won both of their matches as they defeated Lesotho (9-0) and Malawi (3-0) to top the pool.

Phewe and Modise were among the goals, as well as Joanne Solomon, who managed a hat-trick in the first game.

With Mozambique out, Group C was reduced to two teams, so Zimbabwe and Angola essentially played over two legs, with the Zimbabweans winning 3-1 and 1-0 to advance as pool winners.

South Africa was too strong in the semifinals with a 4-1 win over Zimbabwe, while Namibia edged Zambia 5-4 on penalties after the teams had played to a 1-1 draw.

Zambia took the bronze medal as they beat Zimbabwe 2-1 in the play-off, while South Africa fell behind to a Rita Williams goal for Namibia in the final, but Modise (two) and Kylie-Ann Louw netted as they roared back to claim gold.

2008 COSAFA Women's Championship

South Africa sent their Under-20 side to the 2008 COSAFA Women's Championship in Angola because of a clash of fixtures for the senior national side but still managed to come home with the gold medal.

A young Noko Matlou proved the hero for them with a hat-trick in the final, as she netted 12 goals through the entire tournament to underline her huge potential. She is still playing for the team today.

South Africa had been placed in a tough group but came through relatively unscathed as they beat Botswana (5-0), Zimbabwe (2-1), and Zambia (7-3).

That set up a semi-final with Namibia, where they again were forced to fight hard before goals from Tina Selepe, Lucinda Bowers and Matlou saw them win the day 3-1.

That set up a final against the hosts Angola when Matlou shone again as her hat-trick saw South Africa win their third straight gold and keep their grip on the regional showpiece trophy.

2011 COSAFA Women's Championship

Hosts Zimbabwe became the first side to break South Africa's hold on the COSAFA Women's Championship when they picked up the trophy on home soil in 2011.

The tournament was played at two venues across Harare and included East African guest nation Tanzania. Zimbabwe breezed through Group A as they claimed three wins from three against Lesotho (4-0), Malawi (8-2), and Mozambique (3-0). They were joined in the semifinals by Malawi, who took the runner-up spot in the pool.

South Africa also had a perfect record in the pool stages as they claimed wins over Zambia (4-1), Botswana (4-0), and Tanzania (1-0), with Tanzania joining them in the knockout stages.

Zimbabwe found the going tough in the semifinals though where they were held to a 0-0 draw by Tanzania, but held their nerve to claim the penalty shoot-out 4-2.

South Africa were much more emphatic winners in their semi-final as they defeated Malawi 5-1 with future national team captain Amanda Dlamini grabbing two goals.

That set up a final with Zimbabwe and it was the hosts who triumphed as Rufaro Machingura scored the only goal with six minutes remaining to claim gold for her team.

To be continued

SPORTS

A second opportunity for Gadiel Michael at Simba SC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC defender, Gadiel Michael, is set to be given another chance by the outfit in the 2021/22 season after the struggles of the last two campaigns.

The Msimbazi Street squad is set to hand the defender a new two-year contract that will keep him at the club until the end of the 2022/23 campaign.

With Mohamed Hussein an immovable object in the first 11 at left-back, Simba had a couple of routes to consider, a young understudy, a much older and more experienced backup, a versatile player to cover another position as well, or genuine competition to push Hussein to maintain and improve his best level.

The latter would potentially be expensive, as high-quality, offensive-minded full-backs tend to be, making it an unlikely avenue for the Msimbazi Street squad to pursue.

Simba had been loosely linked with Kagera Sugar full-back, David Charles Luhende, earlier in the window.

Luhende is a set-piece expert, great with his positional work, still with the stamina to get forward, and experienced enough to know when to hold his place at the back.

Luhende experience could push Hussein to improve, set-piece threat, and potential low fee.

The fullback moreover scores a few goals, too but the age factor counted against him.

Naturally, attack-minded left fullback, Nickson Kibabage, was also considered but he was not expected to be the first choice.

In the end, Simba seems to have made a u-turn and offered Gadiel a second opportunity to prove himself.

The Tanzanian international has now technically been a Simba player for two years but there are many Msimbazi Street side fans who would swear they have ei-



Gadiel Michael. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

ther never seen him play in the last one year or fail to identify him if he turns up at their local entertainment joint.

He joined the outfit back in August 2019, signing a lucrative two-year deal, after he rejected a contract renewal from Simba's age-old rivals Yanga.

At the time, he was the default number one left fullback for the national team, Taifa Stars.

He ignited a bidding war that pushed his value. Having such a big price tag on his head, he understood there would be a lot of eyes on him when he decided to cross over to Simba. A lot was expected.

However, since Gadiel signed terms at Simba, he has made just 20 competi-

tive appearances for the club in over two years, failing to make much of an impact. He has failed to dislodge Mohamed Hussein.

Without being selected for the Taifa Stars squad and very rarely nailing a place in Simba's first team, Gadiel's career did not look promising and very few would have bet their money Simba would extend his contract.

Gadiel was infrequently called upon by both Didier Gomes and Sven Vandenbroeck throughout 2020/21, making just six appearances all season.

A new deal comes as a surprise to many though, looking at all factors, it is a fair cost-effective deal.

It is a new season, every player starts from zero. After all the struggles of last season, Gadiel understands that he is going to be part of the team and at the moment he is like any other player in the Simba squad.

How he did the last two seasons does not matter. It is what he can contribute to the team now.

He deserves to, first of all, be treated the same and in return perform to his best capability.

Amidst many changes in the squad, every player is going to have the same opportunities.

They have to show with their performance, their attitude that they are either better than their teammates or somehow contributing to the team's overall performance.

Five key areas new foreign signings in Premier League have to work on

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

IN the 2020/21 season, Simba SC seemed to be the most successful football side in Tanzania, sealing the Mainland Premier League trophy, the Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) silverware, and reaching the quarterfinals of the CAF Champions League.

Simba SC's age-old rivals, Yanga, finished second in the Premier League, but successfully won the Mapinduzi Cup alone and thus continue the nightmares of missing out on the Premier League title for four consecutive seasons.

We are now heading into a new season in which fans will be going to witness changes to the two biggest teams in the country that have signed many new players including foreign professionals.

Simba has sold two of their key footballers, midfielder Clatous Chama that has moved to RS Berkane of Morocco, and Luis Miquissone, who has been sold to African champions Al Ahly of Egypt.

Yanga has also sold Congolese winger Tuisila Kisinda to RS Berkane, as well as offloading many of the club's foreign players who were with the team last season.

The Guardian brings five tests that new Simba and Yanga players will face which they must fight to overcome, as, if they fail to live up to expectations, then they should prepare psychologically to be scolded by the fans of those clubs.

The new signings will have to fill the positions of competent players that have left by playing at the highest level.

Simba has sold Miquissone and Chama while Yanga will not have Kisinda and others who added flavour and entertainment within those outfits last season.

Will the new players be able to close their gaps and step into the shoes of those that have left?

It is not easy. It takes a high level of effort to commit and do things that will not remind fans of the commanding presence of Chama, Miquissone, and Kisinda.

This is the first test that new professionals have to answer through their feet.

The second thing a player needs to do, when he is registered by the two teams, is to help his team achieve goals



Azam FC's newly signed Zambian midfielder, Charles Zulu, takes part in training with his teammates in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

without high-level competition, so new players are required to take this test and pass it.

This competition should not only end in domestic matches but also internationally as the main goals of Simba, Yanga, Azam FC, and Biashara United are to do well in these major competitions.

No one disputes that last season's Premier League was a huge undertaking, prompting many to watch football on the stadium and television.

More influence was brought about by pure football being displayed by players inside the stadium.

People went to the stadium to see how Kisinda was fast dribbling past defenders and others followed Chama's skills and well-executed passes, while some wanted to see Miquissone's tricks and dribbles.

Will the newcomers come up with something to add more appeal and make the league more interesting? This is the third test they have to work on it.

In the last four seasons, the Mainland Premier League has made great strides. It is in the top 10 African leagues and so far, the country has four outfits representing it in the biggest football championships in Africa at the club level.

The success did not come about by accident, but it was due to the competition, the quality of the team, and the players who are the main characters on the field.

New players especially the ones roped in by Simba, Yanga, and Azam FC need to improve the clubs' performance. This is another difficult test for them.

You may have a second thought that entertaining football is not very important in football, but you have to believe that it is a special joy to the fans.

Do you know that apart from football enthusiasts supporting their teams, they follow entertaining football displayed on the field? Many pursue entertainment.

The quality of the players as well as the various sights on and off the field are the great entertainment that many football fans love to see.

The new players should be creative on the field to provide entertainment for the fans as was the case with many Simba and Yanga players who played in the league last season.

Various soccer stars in the Premier League last season, led by Chama, whose level was entertainment for not only Simba supporters but also the ones backing the side's biggest rivals, Yanga, made football a real joy and won football followers hearts.

Other players, who brought entertainment to the league last season, were Yanga midfielder, Mukoko Tonombe, who had his style of celebrating the goals he scored.

The DR Congo midfielder, after he scored a goal, ran to a corner flag, motioned his teammates to sit down, and acts as a coach issuing instructions to players.

Benard Morrison, Paschal Wawa, and Erasto Nyoni of Simba, also did not run out of surprises on and off the field and turned into fans' attraction in soccer domestically.

How Atletico Madrid's Diego Simeone became king of LaLiga

ESPN

THERE can be only one table. Just one, in the shape of a square, and it must be big enough to accommodate all 24 players who have made the trip. Please put six chairs on each side, so everyone can see everyone else, and no place is better than another. If you can't construct a table big enough or you don't have a banquet room to fit it, we will find a different hotel.

The instructions were clear, passed down from Diego Pablo Simeone, the Atletico de Madrid manager, to Tomas Renones, the club legend who handles all aspects of first-team life, and then to the catering director at the Courtyard by Marriott in Wolfsburg, Germany. It was only a preseason friendly that Atletico were playing against VfL Wolfsburg, a nothing game for which half of the first-team squad had stayed in Spain, but that didn't matter.

Since taking over Atletico a decade ago, Simeone, 51, has left nothing to chance. For every game, from friendlies to the Champions League finals that the club has reached twice during his tenure, he proceeds in identical fashion. He sits in the same seat on the left side of the front row of the team bus, nobody beside him. He prefers those rides to be as short as possible, so he asks his travel department to find him not the most comfortable hotel in the area, like the Ritz-Carlton where nearly all the top teams that visit Wolfsburg stay, but a perfectly acceptable option nearer the stadium. He likes to spend the hour before a game alone with his thoughts, so his staff works in advance to secure a private space apart from the visiting changing room.

"Nothing is casualidad," Simeone says, using the Spanish word for happenstance. "It is causalidad." Purposeful.

The table? When Simeone arrived at Atletico, players grouped themselves in cliques. He understood that the challenge he faced – competing in a league against Barcelona and Real Madrid – demanded absolute unity. It was the only way that Atletico, who had managed to win LaLiga only once in more than 30 years, could compensate for the inevitable gap in talent. The table forced everyone to integrate.

"At the square table, if you don't feel like talking to me, I raise my head and I have to look at you," Simeone says. "It is an obligation that they look at each other. That they sit together. That they be together."

By 2013-14, his third full season as Atletico's manager, Simeone had forged a gritty team that ceded possession for the majority of each game, yet often found a way to win. It rode cohesiveness, emotion, fitness and the occasional miraculous goal to a title – Atletico's first since 1996.

"We used the counterattack," Koke, Atletico's captain, says now. "We defended, sometimes high and sometimes low. We dominated without the ball." That became known as Atletico's style – and Simeone's – but Simeone insists that what shows itself on the field is only the visible manifestation of a deeper understanding.

"Our essence is not the style of the game, but the way we live the game," he says. "When someone new comes into our locker room, it can be hard for him to adapt. He does only when he understands that when you are playing here, you aren't just playing with your talent. The difference is not talent. It is our personality, our security, our conviction, our commitment." As if to prove his point, an almost entirely different Atletico team – one that played in a different shape with a modified system – rose up and did it again last season. Only that absolute commitment to the cause was unchanged.

"The most important thing at Atletico is that nobody here thinks he's better than any other player," Luis Suarez said to ESPN earlier this month. He'd just arrived at Atleti's training facility, a week earlier than required. Discarded by Barcelona before last season, the Uruguayan striker played a critical role – perhaps the critical role – in Atletico's successful pursuit of another title. "Every single player here has confidence in every other player," Suarez added. "And that," he said, using Simeone's nickname, "is Cholo."

Clearly, Atletico's teams have their stars. During Simeone's tenure, he has relied on Diego Costa, Thibaut Courtois and Antoine Griezmann, among others. Then he moved them on to football's most important clubs in order to finance their successors. The 2021-22 team includes Suarez, one of the sport's top goalkeepers in Jan Oblak, and the extraordinarily gifted Joao Felix.

Still, during a decade when Barcelona was epitomized by Lionel Messi and Real Madrid by Cristiano Ronaldo, two of the most recognizable people on Earth, Atletico's face has been its manager. That, too, isn't happenstance. In the end, Simeone's approach has proven more impactful than any of the players charged with implementing it.

"Cholo is beyond a manager," says the mayor of Madrid, Jose Luis Martinez-Almeida, who makes no secret of his affection for his city's second team. "He has transformed our club from unstable to one that can compete with any in the world. That's why we value him so much."

To Simeone, the task is just beginning. "To maintain means to go decades like this, doing what we are doing," he says. That includes continuing to parlay competitive success into economic growth, because one is unsustainable without the other. "And that growth is not just based on money," Simeone stresses. "It is based on winning."

Following the team meal in Wolfsburg, Simeone gathered the players for a brief talk. Then they walked through the front door toward the team bus. A small group of fans had gathered, hotel employees and others who'd been strolling by. It was an orderly scene. As the players passed, some names were spoken aloud, as if someone were narrating a movie. There's Oblak. Hey, isn't that Thomas Lemar, who won the World Cup with France? Ah, Saul – Saul Niguez. That's him!

Then Simeone burst through the doors, walking with intent. "It's Cholo! It's Cholo Simeone!" a woman shouted in Spanish. "There he is, Simeone!" another swooned in German. Simeone signed an autograph. He posed for someone's selfie, flashing an electric smile. (When he chooses, he can be as charismatic as anyone in football.) Then, with the click of the phone, his face snapped back into a line. He boarded the bus and went back to work.

The Wanda Metropolitano, Atletico's dramatic, four-year-old stadium, seems to billow over the flatlands northeast of the city. Inside it, the club constructed a museum. It happened during the past year when fans were barred from attending games because of COVID-19, so few have had the opportunity to visit it. When they do, they'll find multimedia exhibits, such as a theater that replicates the bedroom of a small boy. Across

a series of screens, an emotional video chronicles the handing down, one generation to the next, of the tradition of support for this unique club. The boy, it becomes clear, is the Atletico icon – and former Liverpool and Chelsea striker – Fernando Torres.

What the fans won't see at the new museum are the trappings of many actual accomplishments, at least not from the modern era. For a club with such a broad and passionate following, its trophy case is noticeably bare. Its glory days were the 1960s and 1970s, but even that meant just four league titles over two decades, along with five Spanish Cups. Since then, Atletico have won LaLiga three times: 1996, when Simeone starred for the team in midfield, then 2014 and last season with him as manager. The reason for the lack of hardware, of course, is the presence of two teams that, by most measures, are the biggest in the world.

"It's the principal problem that I have," says Miguel Angel Gil, the owner. "Atletico can invest in our team less than half of what Real Madrid and Barcelona do in theirs – and, by the way, less than half of eight others in Europe."

Gil was talking with full knowledge of the recent economic crisis that has hit both clubs, necessitating the departure of Lionel Messi from Barcelona and putting Real Madrid more than a billion dollars in debt. How each of them proceed from here is uncertain, but their ability to generate revenue – \$832 million for Real Madrid in the pandemic-affected 2019-20 season; more than \$1 billion for Barcelona, according to published reports – gives them at least the capability for a swift recovery.

That same season, Atletico brought in \$403 million, which ranked just 13th in Europe. Yet their UEFA coefficient, as high as second under Simeone, is sixth. And in each of the past 20 seasons until the last one, when COVID-19 mandated games without spectators, they turned a profit.

Gil's father, a larger-than-life entrepreneur named Jesus Gil y Gil, was elected president of the club in 1987. Gil y Gil served as mayor of the seacoast resort city of Marbella, then served time in prison after accusations of money laundering and embezzlement. Eventually he was barred from holding public office and, in 2003, he was stripped of his affiliation with Atletico. By then, the club had been demoted to Spain's second division, an embarrassment from which many of its supporters still haven't recovered.

With help from investors, control of the club landed with his son. One of Miguel Angel's first assertive acts was to dismantle the surprising 2010 team that had won the Europa League under Quique Sanchez Flores. That team had two dominant players, Diego Forlan and Sergio Aguero. Both were feuding with Sanchez Flores and with each other. Rather than choose sides, Gil fired the manager and got rid of both players (Forlan went to Inter Milan, Aguero to Man City).

Atletico had always seen themselves as the team of the people, as opposed to Real, the purple-and-white bastion of Spanish royalty that played uptown, and if anyone personified that ethic, it was Simeone. Born and raised in Argentina, he'd anchored the staunch Atletico sides of 1994 to 1997 with his unyielding commitment to the cause. After playing in Italy, he returned in 2003 for two more seasons. Once he finished playing, Simeone managed four Argentine clubs with mixed results. He spent six months trying to keep overmatched Catania in Serie A, then returned to Argentina again to assume command of Racing in June 2011.

Atletico took a risk hiring Simeone. If Gil didn't understand that already, it became clear that fall when he started calling his previous employers. Simeone had guided Argentina's mighty River Plate to a title in 2007, then stumbled to a last-place finish and the club's almost unthinkable relegation the following season.

"The president of River spoke of him very badly," Gil says. "In Italy, they spoke of him the same way. A disaster." Everyone warned Gil to stay away. Still, Gil couldn't stop recalling the dedication Simeone had displayed as Atletico's captain, and his stubborn refusal to accept anything less from his teammates.

"He was already a manager then," says Renones. Known simply as "Tomas" while a player, Renones was 35 and in his last season with Atletico when Simeone willed the team to that 1996 title. "Cholo was a manager on the field," he says. "He directed. He mandated. He had the same demand that he has now. You win. You win. And then you win again. You play well and win, that's good. You play badly and win? That's good, too."

Like Gil, Simeone understood that the beautiful part of the beautiful game was a luxury this club couldn't afford. He was willing to have his teams play defensive football, which is almost a necessity when you're invariably outmanned by your rivals. He seemed to thrive on the devotion that Atleti require from their players, but also their fans. "In terms of marketing," Gil says, "he is our best possible messenger."

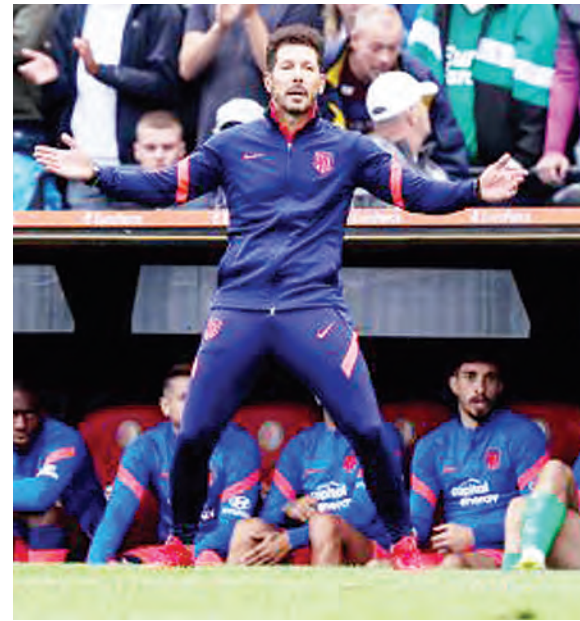
Simeone acknowledges that he didn't have the experience to manage a club with the size and ambition of Atletico, "but Miguel Angel knew me better than the others," he says. "And he saw something in me that the others didn't see."

When Simeone assumed control of the club during the Christmas break of 2011, Atletico were 10th in LaLiga and had crashed out of the Copa del Rey. Over the 3,500-odd days that followed, a span in which Real Madrid have changed managers eight times, he won 317 games, drew 121 and lost 89. Two of those losses were the 2014 and 2016 Champions League finals – both of them, agonisingly, to Real Madrid.

It is not without irony that the reputation of a manager obsessed with winning was enhanced more by two losses than anything more he has accomplished. Competing in the final twice in three years raised Atletico's profile. It also attracted the interest of players who previously never would have considered it. "Now, the good ones want to come here," Simeone says. "The ones who might have only chosen Real Madrid or Barcelona and not Atletico, now they also want to come to Atletico."

Which players? At no point did Simeone give sporting director Andrea Berta a name. All he asked for was a star or two who would make the same commitment he demanded from everyone else. "Diego said to me, 'Andrea, if we can get a little more money, we can get players of an even higher quality,'" Berta says. "He knows that it's easier to win with better players. 'However,' Berta adds, waving a finger, "it is also more complicated."

It's 6:30 on a warm August evening. The Madrid sun is still high in the sky. Simeone's players are doing what Simeone's players do on August afternoons – and will continue to do all season. Atletico's fitness coach Oscar Ortega – called "Profe," for "Professor" – has laid out a line of BOSU balls on the turf. One after another, his charges approach, then alternate between



one foot and two as they hop and jump on the half-globes to the finish.

It's an exercise that demands body control and agility and, after the fifth or sixth repetition, sheer will. Here comes Angel Correa, new signing Rodrigo de Paul, Suarez and the standout defender Jose Gimenez, hopping and panting and occasionally stumbling. "One, two," Profe says calmly as they pass him. "One, two." Profe knows this is merely the beginning. So do the players. Berta puts it succinctly: "Run, run, and then run more," he says. "Because we're not Barcelona."

Inside football, these workouts have become legendary. They mimic the physical exertion necessary for a style of play that forces even strikers to track back and defend. Watching carefully, noticing everything, Simeone decides who can take it.

"It was very hard for me," says former Atletico midfielder Joshua Guilavogui. "He has one way to go, and either you are in or you are out." Now Wolfsburg's captain, Guilavogui arrived at Atletico in 2013 from St. Etienne. Early in those summer sessions, Simeone saw something he didn't like. Guilavogui started one match and played two minutes in another. "And it wasn't just me," Guilavogui says. "At the time, there were players on the team who were better than I was, who were already having big careers."

One of them was Jackson Martinez, the former FC Porto attacker. Nicolas Gaitan, who'd starred at Benfica, was another. The experiences of all three men had the same downward trajectory. Simeone watched them training, then wrote them off. Never mind that the club had spent liberally to bring them in, including \$38.5 million for Martinez and \$33 million for Gaitan. "Talent is important," Berta says. "But without the right mentality to play for Diego, they can't succeed at Atletico."

Other players understand that Simeone can maximise their potential. Filipe Luis joined Atletico in 2010, prior to Simeone. After the championship in 2014, he signed with Chelsea. It meant more money and, he figured, an easier life. Within a few weeks, he realised he missed the rigour that Simeone imposed.

"Without him, I couldn't be the best left-back in the world," he says. "In his hands, I was. So I had to go back. Only he could extract all the football that I had in my body." Filipe Luis begged Chelsea to return him to Atletico. Chelsea did. He stayed and thrived until 2019.

Simeone appreciates that most bodies aren't meant to operate continuously at such a high level of intensity. He tells Berta that ideally they would renovate the roster every few years, just as armies rotate regiments in and out of combat. Exceptions, perhaps, are some of the players who arrive as teenagers, like Koke and Correa and Gimenez, and seem preternaturally suited for the regimen. In part, it is because they know no other way. Yet every new arrival is a potential flop.

"With some players, we lose 100% of our investment," Gil says. "Why? Because they don't adapt to this system. Every player must run, run and run. If they don't, they don't play. And when you have players with high talent, it's almost incompatible with run, run and run."

So when Atletico signed Felix in 2019 for a club record \$140 million, eyebrows were raised. "He was very technical," says Martinez-Almeida, the mayor, "but I didn't think he was up to the physical standard." By various reckonings, this was the third-, fourth- or fifth-most expensive transfer in history at the time. It shattered Atletico's club record, the \$80 million spent on Lemar, and all for an undeniably talented 19-year-old who couldn't possibly anticipate what would be required of him. But in Felix, Simeone saw the young Griezmann.

Griezmann, too, had arrived scrawny and immature – "a weak boy," in Simeone's words. He had flair that seduces fans from the moment they first see him, but no concept of sublimating his skills to the team effort. But Griezmann learned. He eventually scored 133 goals for Atletico before Barcelona called.

Exactly the same is happening with Felix. After suffering through a disastrous first year, he played as well as anyone in LaLiga last season until an ankle injury slowed his progress. "I learned the relationship between suffering and the success of the team," Felix says. "When you suffer together, you learn to win together. We suffer in our training. We suffer because we all have to defend. It teaches us how to win."

Now, he says, if Simeone wants him to drop back to the midfield to mark a man, he'll do it. If Simeone wants him to stay forward and press the ball, he'll do that. "I do whatever he asks," he says. "I understand the philosophy."

Last summer, to some surprise, Atletico added Suarez, who will turn 35 in January. (It helped that he arrived on a free transfer, with Barcelona paying a significant portion of his wages.) Simeone insists that the first job of a forward is to be his first line of defence, and that didn't sound like Uruguay's all-time leading scorer. But nobody could question Suarez's competitiveness – he has been caught three times biting opponents, after all.

"He knew I had motivation after Barcelona," Suarez says of Simeone. "He knew I wanted to demonstrate my quality to LaLiga. He told me exactly what I had to do, and he gave me the confidence that I could play my best here."

But motivation was only part of the issue. The open question was whether Suarez could work as hard as necessary on defence and have the energy to score goals. To accommodate him, Simeone gave Suarez extra vacation. He adapted the team's tactics to fit his formidable skills, restructuring the formation from its usual 4-4-2 to a 3-5-2. He made it clear that Suarez wasn't expected to run as much as the younger players such as Marcos Llorente. But Suarez had to run intelligently.

Led by Felix, Atletico raced to an early lead in the table. After 10 matches, they not only hadn't lost a game, they hadn't even trailed. Midway through the season, their lead was 10 points. Then Felix hurt his ankle and contracted COVID-19. Kieran Trippier was suspended for 10 games over gambling-related offences. Suarez's furious pace slackened. With eight games left, the advantage had narrowed to a single point over Real Madrid, and two over Barcelona.

That last month was when all that sweating and panting paid off. On the season's final day, Atletico traveled to Real Valladolid with the title in doubt. Quickly, they fell behind. But in the 67th minute, after Correa had equalised, Suarez made a run with the ball and scored the winner. When the game ended, he fell to the ground and cried. He had won cups and league titles at Barcelona, but this was different. Simeone looked on approvingly.

"I always say that, at Atletico, when you win, you enjoy it twice as much," he says now.

Why? Because nobody expects Atletico to win. The impetus lies with the giants. All Simeone's club can do is wait for an opening. Overcoming Real Madrid and Barcelona proved that the same counterattacking strategy Atletico employ over 90 minutes week after week also works as writ large. As the fortunes of clubs rise and fall, an opportunity may appear. Everything Simeone does, all that preparation, is for his players to be ready to seize it.

"Everywhere you turn, in LaLiga, the Copa del Rey, even the Champions League, the two of them are waiting," he says of Real Madrid and Barcelona. "But today, after nine years of work, they know that they can't mess up. Because it they do, we are here."

As he passes a decade as Atletico's manager, Simeone's situation seems ideal. It isn't just his \$30 million annual salary (plus bonuses) – as high as that of any manager in the world, and more than any other current LaLiga player. Because of his tenure and Gil's support, no manager is more powerful. "Other clubs lose five or six games and they change the manager," says Filipe Luis. "No problem, the players are protected. At Atletico, the manager is protected. The players adapt... or they leave."

His achievements have been noticed, of course. Last season, Simeone was linked with both Tottenham Hotspur and Chelsea. In 2014, he interviewed with Manchester United but ultimately rebuffed interest. At various times, he said that he'd like to manage both Internazionale and the Argentina national team. Yet for all the reasons that Simeone is such a good fit at Atletico, it's unclear how he would fare anywhere else. The most likely destination is in England, especially with Real Madrid and Barcelona off the table for emotional reasons.

"But if he went to manage in the Premier League, it wouldn't work," Gil says. "It isn't just a question of language; it's the characteristics of how he manages. It's the emotional way he proceeds. The demands he puts on players. You just couldn't do that there."

Earlier this year, Simeone signed a contract extension that should keep him in place until 2024, and the grind may get easier. Unlike the last time Atletico won, most of this team should stay together for a while. The 2014 title was perceived as a one-off, and used as a launching pad by players ready to claim a place with the top echelon of teams. Now Atletico are in that echelon, as illustrated by their inclusion (albeit at the last minute) in the abortive European Super League. "In 2014, everyone wanted to leave," Simeone says. "Now, no one does. Why? Because this is working well. We have stability. The club is strong. And we can win."

With Barcelona in disarray, frantically trying to shed players and payroll, and Real Madrid integrating yet another new manager and with an uncertain lineup, this season may provide another one of those openings. With that comes the chance for Atletico to repeat as champions for the first time in 70 years and establish themselves, at least for the moment, as not just one of the best teams in the world, but the best in Spain.

Simeone seems energized by the possibility. He remains as animated as ever; windmilling his arms on the touchline, ranging far beyond the technical area, screaming instructions.

At one point against Wolfsburg, the young winger Rodrigo Riquelme spotted a teammate breaking into the clear. But Riquelme delayed delivering the ball and the moment passed. Simeone turned red.

He flung his hands skyward, his face contorted into a grimace. He turned away from the field in disgust, his features a mask of frustration.

The game was 40 seconds old.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

How Atletico Madrid's Diego Simeone became king of LaLiga

Cricketers set for Advanced Players League

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA's cricketers have once again been presented with a chance to prove their worth, given the 2021 Advanced Players Cricket League (APL) has been scheduled for August 27 to September 5 at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club's oval.

The showpiece, organized by Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA), is one of the tournaments hosted on regular basis, seeking to improve cricket promotion in the country.

Atif Salim, TCA information officer, said this is the 10th APL hosted by the association since the tournament's inception.

The official mentioned six sides that will take part in the showpiece as Simba Kings, Chui Challengers, Buf-

Queens add to squad ahead of 2021/22 CAF Women's Champions League qualifiers

JOHANNESBURG

BLACK Rhinos Queens have stepped up their preparations for the 2021 TotalEnergies CAF Women's Champions League. COSAFA Qualifiers, in Durban from August 26 to September 4 as they eye the top prize and a ticket to Cairo.

The team is back in training for the first time since June ahead of the competition and has been put through their paces under the watchful eye of coach Kuda Matuvi, having moved their preparations to the National Sports Stadium in Harare.

Matuvi has been able to bolster his squad with several loan signings, not least the international trio of goalkeeper Cynthia Shonga, veteran midfielder Marjory Nyamwe, and striker Rudo Neshamba.

The latter captained the team at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro and brings bags of experience.

Those three will provide a significant boost in quality and know-how for the side, who have also signed Agnes Tumbare on a six-month deal.

The team also previously announced the capture of center-back Purity Mugayi and midfielder Concelia Madotsa from Faith Drive, who are based in Matare.

These players have joined the core group of experienced stars for the side, which includes national team forward Rutendo Makore, who has been no stranger to COSAFA events in the past with the national team.

She finished as the leading scorer at the 2017 COSAFA Women's Championship where she starred for the Mighty Warriors with 10 goals.

Other recent national team stars include defender Sharon Teterai and midfielder Mavis Chirandu.

The experience in the squad makes Black Rhinos Queens one of the favourites for the competition, and they will certainly be eager to lift the trophy with a place at the 2021 TotalEnergies CAF Women's Champions League in Egypt later this year on the line.

Black Rhinos are in the three-team Group B in Durban along with Zambian side Green Buffaloes and Namibia's TURA Magic in what will be a tough pool.

All those teams will fancy making the next round, but only two can progress to the semifinals.

Group A contains South African champions Mamelodi Sundowns, Lesotho Defence Force, Manzini Wanderers from Eswatini, and Double Action Ladies of Botswana. AGENCIES

Kim Poulsen announces Taifa Stars' players for 2022 World Cup Qualifiers



Tanzania's senior national soccer squad 'Taifa Stars' head coach, Kim Poulsen. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA's senior national soccer squad 'Taifa Stars' head coach, Kim Poulsen, yesterday announced 28 players that will make the squad set to play DR Congo and Madagascar in the second round of African qualifiers for the 2022 FIFA World Cup slated for next month.

A notable inclusion in the squad is Yanga's midfielder, Zawadi Peter Mauya, that has had a call-up for the senior national squad for the first time.

The 28 players, according to the Danish tactician, are expected to enter camp on Tuesday next week to start preparations for the assignments.

They include Aishi Manula, Metacha Mnata, Ramadhan Kabwili, Wilbroad Maseke, Shomari Kapombe, Israel Mwenda, Erasto Nyoni, Dickson Job, and Bakari Mwamnyeto.

The list moreover has Kennedy Juma, Lusajo Mwaikenda, Abdulrazack Mohamed, Mohamed Hussein, Nickson Kibabage, Edward Manyama, Meshack Abraham, Novatus Dismas, and Mzamiru Yassin.

Mudathir Yahya, Feisal Salum, Salum Abubakar, Zawadi Mauya, Iddi Selemani, Abdul Hamis Suleiman, Mbwana Samatta, John Bocco, Ayub Lyanga, and Simon Msuva are as well the footballers selected for the squad.

Mauya has earned the call-up after the midfielder made his presence felt in Yanga's squad in this season's domestic tournaments.

The defensive midfielder, in one of his exploits, netted the lone goal as Yanga posted a 1-0 victory over rivals, Simba, in a Premier League clash in

Dar es Salaam on July 3.

Taifa Stars have been placed in Group J of the continental qualifiers alongside Madagascar, DR Congo, and Benin.

The Tanzania team is set to confront DR Congo national squad in the first match of the group at Stade TP Mazembe in Lubumbashi on September 2.

Madagascar will entertain Benin in Group J's other clash the same day.

Taifa Stars will, later on, entertain Madagascar in Dar es Salaam on September 7.

In the third fixture, Taifa Stars is expected to take on Benin on October 6 at a venue, which will be announced later.

Taifa Stars knocked Burundi out of the African qualifiers for the 2022 World Cup's first-round via penalties.

The two teams settled for a 1-1 draw in both home and away clashes of the first round.

The match was, for that matter, settled via penalties, which saw Taifa Stars cruise to a 3-0 victory over Burundi.

World football governing body, FIFA, in May this year, announced the postponement of African qualifiers for the Qatar 2022 FIFA World Cup which had been due to take place in June.

FIFA said the decision was taken in conjunction with the Confederation of African Football (CAF).

The postponement was reportedly made due to the "need to ensure optimal playing conditions for all teams."

FIFA said the qualifiers are now scheduled to take place in existing windows during September, October, and November in 2021, as well as March in 2022.

The second round of the CAF qualification process had been due to begin in June.

Teams are due to compete across 10 groups, with the winners advancing to the third round of qualification.

The third round will see group winners drawn against each other in-home and away matches, with the two-legged ties deciding Africa's five representatives at Qatar 2022 World Cup.

Reigning African Cup of Nations champions, Algeria, headline Group A, with Burkina Faso, Niger, and Djibouti providing the opposition in the second round.

Tunisia, Zambia, Mauritania, and Equatorial Guinea feature in Group B, while Nigeria, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, and Liberia will contest Group C.

Cameroon faces the Ivory Coast, Mozambique, and Malawi in Group D as they aim to extend their African record number of appearances at the finals, having competed in seven tournaments to date.

Mali, Uganda, Kenya, and Rwanda will contest Group E, while Egypt heads the Group F line-up where they will face Gabon, Libya, and Angola.

Ghana, Africa's most recent quarter-finalists back in 2010, will play South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Ethiopia in Group G.

falo Blasters, Royal Rhinos, Tembo Stars, and Twiga Titans.

Twiga Titans are the APL defending champions, they laid their hands on the 2020 competition's trophy after commanding a four-run victory over Chui Challengers in the final played on August 16.

Ironically, Chui Challengers conceded a 15-run loss to the same opponents in the first of the last four stage's ties, as the latter stepped up their pursuit of the top honour.

Chui Challengers thereafter booked a place in the final, cruising to victory over Simba Kings in the other semi.

The APL brings together the best local cricketers from various clubs from upcountry, U-18 cricketers, and senior national team players.

The TCA official revealed this season's APL opening ceremony will be held at TCA Academy at Muhimbili in the city on August 26.

The clashes, he disclosed, will continue throughout the week with the teams taking on each other and the top four sides will sail through to the knockout phase.

The showpiece final will take place on September 5 at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club's oval.

Salim stated that Reliance Insurance firm and Azania Bank are this season's APL main sponsors.

The showdown's co-sponsors are G1 Security, Harab Motors, Hitech Sai, Sterling, General Petroleum, and Pepsi.

Salim noted TCA is set to release the showdown's fixtures next week.

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The clashes, he disclosed, will continue throughout the week with the teams taking on each other and the top four sides will sail through to the knockout phase

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